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City of Stoke-on-Trent.

ANNUAL REPORT
on
*The Work of the
Public Health Department,
1926.*

G. PETGRAVE JOHNSON,
M.D., C.M., D.P.H.

LATE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

*With the
Medical Officer of Health's
Compliments.*

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
GLEBE STREET,
STOKE-ON-TRENT.



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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

G. PETGRAVE JOHNSON, M.D., C.M., D.P.H.

Died November 8th, 1926.

Tuberculosis Officer:

ALLAN WOTHERSPOON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Resident Medical Officer, Stanfield Sanatorium, and Assistant Tuberculosis Officer:

WILLIAM HUGHES, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Surgical Tuberculosis Officer:

WM. MITCHELL SMITH, M.D., M.B., C.M. (PART TIME).

Lady Medical Officer:

JESSIE BALSILLIE, M.B., Ch.B.

Assistant Lady Medical Officers:

GWENDOLINE M. COGSWELL, L.S.A.

FANNY GIBBENS, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (PART TIME).

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Chief Sanitary Inspector:

HARRY SPENCER, Cert. M.R.S.I., Cert. Meat Insp.

Cleansing Superintendent:

TOM STAKE, Cert. R.S.I.

Assistant Cleansing Superintendent

COLIN CLEGG, M.I.C.S.

Senior Inspector of Meat, Provisions, etc.:

JAMES TAYLOR, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Meat Insp.

Assistant Inspector of Meat, Provisions, etc.:

ALBERT CHARLTON, R.S.I., Cert. Meat Insp.

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Assistant Housing Inspectors:

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HARRY COLLIER, Cert. R.S.I.

Smoke Inspector:

JAMES NICKLIN, Cert. R.S.I., Cert Meat Insp.

Assistant Chief Sanitary Inspector:

DOUGLAS HURST, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Meat Insp.

Inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts and Milkshops Inspector:

SYDNEY GREEN, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Meat Insp.

Inspector of Canal Boats and Common Lodging Houses and Workshops:

JOHN F. ADDISON, Cert. R.S.I.

Inspector of Dairies, Cowsheds, Bakehouses and Factories:

ALBERT E. HULME.

Executive Officer under the Rats Order:

THOMAS BASSET, M.C.

Conversions Inspector:

W. H. T. WILKINS, Cert. R. S. I., Cert. Meat Insp.

District Sanitary Inspectors:

W. Ellerton, Cert. R. S. I. ; G. S. Hann, Cert., R.S.I. ; E. G. Sherratt, Cert. R.S.I. ; B. Hodgson, C.S.I. (London) ; H. W. Laughlin, Cert. R.S.I.; J. Eckersley, Cert. R.S.I. ; T. P. Coffey, Cert. R.S.I. ; J. Hague, Cert. R.S.I. ; Allan Dale, Cert. R.S.I. ; Cyril Wilson, Cert. R.S.I. ; William Ward Jackson, Cert. R.S.I.

Senior Health Visitor:

M. FORSTER.

Health Visitors :

F. Tait, A. Eccles, L. Mayer, E. Dawson, E. Morgan, E. M. P. Thomas, E. Callon, E. A. Jolley, F. E. Beech, A. Hodgkinson, A. Tideswell, E. Day, S. Cordon.

Tuberculosis Nurses:

A. Rice, K. Gough, A. E. Myatt and E. Lowndes.

Chief Clerk:

JAMES E. SMITH, Cert. R.S.I.

Clerks:

Norman Wallett, A.C.I.S., A.L.A.A., H. Topham, Frank Scholes, P. Weatherby, Cecil Stubbs, S. Hodgkinson, N. Perry, W. Shaw, E. Austerberry, S. Sutton, Mary Appleton, Catherine Johnson, Doris Thorneycroft, Edith M. Hayes, Millicent Dudley.

Matron—Stanfield Sanatorium:

LAURA GARTON.

City of Stoke-on-Trent.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
City of Stoke-on-Trent.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the following Report for the year, 1926, the seventeenth since the federation of the Pottery Towns.

It is with the greatest regret that I have to record the death of your Medical Officer of Health, Dr. G. Petgrave Johnson, who died suddenly on November 8th. His work for the City will probably never be realised until many years have passed, but what he has planted should continue to flourish and bear fruit in the future.

I trust that his efforts in Housing, the building of the new Maternity Home, and the many other objects he had in mind may all be successfully brought about and remain as a monument to his name.

The estimated population of the City given by the Registrar General is 275,600, being a reduction of 3,300 on last year's figure. The Birth Rate of 21.7 continues to fall although it is still higher than for the 105 large towns which is 18.2. It is, however, the lowest ever recorded except for the War year of 1917, when it was 20.8.

The Death Rate was 12.5 which is the lowest it has ever been for the City, it is still higher than that of the 105 large towns this being 11.6. The decline in the Death Rate is particularly satisfactory in view of the reduction of the estimated population referred to above.

The Infantile Mortality Rate was 101 and that for the large Towns, 73. Lower rates have only been recorded on two occasions for the City and the average for the last five years is lower than the previous five.

Of the Infectious Diseases, Diphtheria has been slightly less prevalent during the year but with a larger number of deaths, but Scarlet Fever has again diminished very markedly. The number of deaths from Enteric Fever was higher during the year owing to an outbreak caused by the consumption of watercress from an infected source.

The General Death Rate for the seven principal Zymotic Diseases was again reduced from 0.89 in 1925 to 0.73 per 1,000 of the population in 1926.

During the year there were two separate outbreaks of Smallpox comprising three cases in all. They were all of mild type and no further cases occurred.

The number of cases of Lead Poisoning was four less than in 1925, but the number of deaths was higher.

There was again a drop in the number of cases of Tuberculosis notified as also in the number of deaths. An entirely new system of records has been put into use at the Dispensaries whereby a much closer contact is kept with the definite cases which are such a danger to others. It is hoped that during the next year facilities will be provided for the treatment of selected cases by Ultra-Violet Rays and Radiant Heat. A considerable expansion of the use of X-Rays for aiding diagnosis has taken place during the year.

The work of the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme has been continued as in previous years but there is still room for a considerable extension of the work when the time is opportune.

The Maternity Hospital at "The Limes" is now nearing completion, and it is hoped to open it this year and to have beds available for cases requiring special care or where home conditions are unsuitable. Hospital accommodation will shortly be available also for cases of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

The new Venereal Diseases Centre is also well in hand and will provide a Centre with the most up-to-date equipment for the treatment of all forms of Venereal Disease.

There was a marked increase of Household Refuse during the year owing to the Coal Dispute which necessitated some extra tipping. Two tips have, however, been closed during the year. The whole question of Refuse Destruction is at present under consideration in view of repairs which are needed at the Burslem Destructor.

During the year 706 houses have been built compared with a total of 1216 for the previous five years but the demand is still as great as ever. The progress with the work under Section 3 of the Housing Acts whereby a house must be kept in a state reasonably fit for habitation has been very satisfactory, but the general question of overcrowding is still a very difficult one to deal with satisfactorily owing to the shortage of houses of a type suitable for the smaller wage earners.

The Corporation are very seriously considering the whole question of Abattoirs for the City and the better supervision of meat. There are undoubtedly a large number of unsatisfactory slaughterhouses.

An inspection of all the cowsheds and cattle in the City has been made by the Part-Time Veterinary Surgeons appointed by the Council, which is certainly a step in the right direction for ensuring a pure milk supply. The number of samples of milk for analysis has been considerably increased and samples are now being taken for the purpose of detecting dirt in milk.

The deposit of soot and tarry matter is still being recorded and shows little change. Readings by the Automatic Air Filter are also taken regularly.

In concluding I would like to thank all the staff for the way they have rallied in the somewhat difficult circumstances brought about by the death of the Medical Officer of Health.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ALLAN WOTHERSPOON.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Public Health Department,

Stoke-on-Trent,

May, 1927.

AREA, PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISTRICT.

The City is 20,759 acres in area. It is 10 miles long, and in no part more than 5 miles wide. About 150 acres are covered with water. The long axis of the district lies north-west and south-east. It is bounded on the north by the Urban District of Biddulph ; on the north-west by the Urban District of Kidsgrove ; on the north-east by the Rural District of Leek, and the Rural District of Cheadle ; and on the south and south-west by the Rural District of Stone ; on the west from south to north, successively by the Rural District of Newcastle, the Borough of Newcastle, the Urban District of Wolstanton, and the Urban District of Kidsgrove.

The highest point of the City is at Shooters Hills, south-east of Longton where it is 800 feet above sea level ; the lowest point is at Trentham, where the Longton Brook passes under Stone Road. The north-east side of the district is on a higher level than the south-west, the level varying from 700 to 600 feet on the north-east, and from 600 to 320 feet on the south-west.

The district is crossed somewhat south of its centre by the River Trent, and there is a gradual fall along the valley of the Trent from the north-east to the southwest from 480 to 320 feet. The northern portion of the District is drained by the Fowlea and Lyme Brooks, which run along the south-west and west boundaries, receiving on their course smaller streams from the north-east. At the northern limit of Stoke the Fowlea Brook runs across the district to join the River Trent, and the Lyme Brook joins the Trent at the south end of Stoke below Hanford Bridge. The southern portion of the district is drained by the Chitlings Brook and the Longton Brook.

For the most part the district has a south-westerly aspect, only those portions of Hanley and Stoke lying immediately north of the Trent Valley having a south-east aspect.

The Penkhull hill is capped by sandstone—red above and grey underlying it, red and grey sandstone also appear at the south-west end of the area. In all other parts the subsoil consists of red and mottled marls, with some limestone and grey marls and shales with coal and ironstone. The clay ranges from very stiff and damp to loose and gravelly. Along the rivers and streams gravel and sand are found, and water at a depth of a few feet.

POPULATION.

The Census of June, 1921, showed that the population of the City was 240,436, and, including the area added from the 1st of April, 1922, 267,611. The Registrar General gives the population of the City as

275,600 at the middle of 1926. This is a reduction of 3,300 on the estimate given by the Registrar General for the preceding year and he stated that the reduction is not necessarily representative of the births, deaths, and migration which occurred between the 30th June, 1925, and the 30th June, 1926. Allowance has been made for migration of population between localities since the Census of 1921.

The populations at the Census periods and the estimated population at the middle of 1926 were as follows:—

		Census 1901	Census 1911	Census 1921 (Extended Area)	Estimated Population to middle of 1926
TUNSTALL	...	24,709	27,390	27,791	28,632
BURSLEM	...	38,766	41,566	42,462	43,747
HANLEY	...	62,226	66,255	67,876	69,933
STOKE	...	30,458	36,218	39,277	40,461
FENTON	...	22,738	25,626	26,718	27,530
LONGTON	...	35,815	37,479	42,593	43,862
SMALLTHORNE, NORTON, BUCK- NALL, etc., Wards 27 and 28	...	—	—	20,894	21,435
Totals	...	214,712	234,534	267,611	275,600

The figures for 1921 and 1926 for Stoke include Hanford. The figures for Longton include Adderley Green, Meir, Lightwood, Trentham and other small areas added when the City was extended in April 1st, 1922.

The distribution of the population over the whole area at the time of the 1901 Census averaged 18.6 persons per acre, during the year 1911, 21.0 persons per acre, and in 1921, 22.0 persons per acre. The number of persons per acre for the extended City in 1926 was 13.27

INHABITED HOUSES.

At the Census in 1901 there were in the City 41,028 inhabited houses ; at the Census in 1911 there were 46,906 ; and at the Census in 1921 there were 47,765. Taking the average number of persons per house at 5, the number of inhabited houses at the present time is probably about 56,422 for the extended City. The proportion of population to houses was, at the Census in 1901, 5.2 ; in 1911, 5.0 ; and 1921, 5.0 persons per house. There are practically no empty houses in the City.

In the seventeen years, 1910 to 1926 inclusive, 2,915 dwelling houses were erected.

During the year 1926, 706 new dwelling houses were certified for habitation. 404 of these were built by the Corporation and 302 by private owners. In 1925, the number was 346, in 1924 217, in 1923 224, in 1922 375, in 1921 54, in 1920 none, in 1919 one, in 1918 3, in 1917 3, in 1916 20, in 1915 33, in 1914 90, in 1913 173, in 1912 158, in 1911 190, and in 1910 the number was 322. All the houses built in 1926 were built with State assistance with the exception of eighteen built by private owners.

The City is divided into 28 Wards.

The population consists chiefly of the working classes. The nature of the accommodation and rentals of the houses is generally as set out below:—

	Weekly Rent
(a) Houses with living room, scullery and two bedrooms..	5/6 to 6/3 net
(b) Parlour, living room, scullery and two bedrooms ...	6/2 to 7/7 net
(c) Parlour, living room, scullery and three bedrooms ...	7/11 to 8/10 net
(d) Parlour, sitting room, kitchen, scullery and three bedrooms	9/9 to 11/- net

N.B.—Net means rent exclusive of rates.

RATEABLE VALUE.

The rateable value of the City for the purposes of the Consolidated Rate in 1926 was:—£1,158,371 compared to £1,207,561 in 1925.

TABLE 1.—Areas, Population and Persons per Acre in Existing Wards.

Ward No.	Acreages	Population at Census 1921 (Revised)	Population to middle of 1926 (Registrar General's Estimate)	No. of persons per acre
1	1,090.93	10,321	10,410	9.55
2	249.70	10,046	10,126	40.55
3	417.94	8,021	8,096	19.38
4	439.66	8,191	8,266	18.80
5	433.25	8,481	8,554	19.70
6	214.84	9,773	9,855	45.80
7	294.94	8,574	8,646	29.28
8	480.95	8,355	8,426	17.50
9	226.95	11,909	12,010	52.80
10	255.75	10,497	10,590	41.37
11	500.53	10,773	10,865	21.73
12	203.77	8,958	9,038	44.50
13	315.91	9,237	9,315	29.48
14	266.96	8,304	8,378	31.35
15	202.92	9,655	9,737	48.00
16	611.60	10,097	10,184	16.66
17	280.85	9,511	9,594	34.15
18	200.03	10,084	10,170	50.80
19	417.58	8,330	8,404	20.20
20	565.65	9,208	9,288	16.40
21	1,595.70	10,422	10,513	6.66
22	447.92	9,754	9,838	13.13
23	1,898.43	10,333	10,422	5.50
24	1,092.84	12,879	12,990	11.78
25	305.80	9,409	9,490	31.00
26	1,640.40	10,866	10,960	6.70
27	2,701.20	13,700	13,818	5.13
28	3,106.00	7,550	7,617	2.46
	20,759.00	273,238	275,600	13.27

BIRTHS.

There were 5,976 births registered in the City in 1926 giving a birth rate of 21.7 per 1,000 of the population.

The rate for the 105 large towns of England and Wales was 18.2 per thousand and for England and Wales, 17.8

The rate is 1.2 lower than in 1925.

In 1876 the birth rate in this country attained the highest point on record, viz.—36.3 per 1,000 living. Since that date the rate has, with few exceptions, fallen year by year.

The ratio of births of males to births of females during the year was 1,032 to 1,000. For the year 1925 the ratio was 1.038 males to 1,000 females. in the years 1865—1920 the ratio in England and Wales has varied from 1,032 per 1,000 to 1,060 per 1,000.

Of the 5,976 children born, 3,035 were males, and 2,941 were females. The number of births and birth rates for the various areas were as follows:-

Tunstall	...	...	654	Birth rate	22.9	per 1,000
Burslem	...	...	998	„	22.8	„
Hanley	...	...	1,622	„	23.2	„
Stoke	...	...	720	„	17.3	„
Fenton	...	...	540	„	19.6	„
Longton	...	...	965	„	22.0	„
Smallthorne, Norton, Bucknall, etc.			475	„	22.6	„

The birth rate was highest in Hanley and lowest in Stoke.

The natural increase of population, that is, excess of births over deaths was 2,540. The previous year it was 2,614, a difference of 74 lives, the number of births registered being 415 less than in 1925 while the number of deaths was only 341 less.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

Of the total births, 256 or 4.3 per cent. were illegitimate. The percentage of illegitimate births in England and Wales was 4.1 for the year 1925. The Illegitimate Birth Rate per 1,000 of population was 0.9 in Stoke-on-Trent as compared with 0.7 in England and Wales for the year 1925.

Of the 256 illegitimate births 133 were males and 123 females.

STILL BIRTHS.

Under the Notification of Births Act, all still births must be notified to the Medical Officer of Health 271 were notified during the year under the Act, and of these 143 were attended by midwives, and 128 by medical men.

Taking the number of still births that occurred in 1926 as 271, it is equal to 4.5 per cent. of the total births. In 1925 there were 301 still births, equal to 4.5 per cent.

TABLE 2.
Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1926 and previous years.

Area of District in acres (land and inland water)

20,759. Total population at all ages—267,611 at Census, 1921.

TABLE 3.

Showing the number of Births, Birth Rate, number of Deaths, Death Rate, and Infantile Mortality Rate in each of the 28 Wards.

WARD		No. of Births registered	Birth Rate	No. of Deaths registered	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
1	...	253	24.3	134	12.9	91
2	...	241	23.8	134	13.2	92
3	...	160	19.7	116	14.3	194
4	...	226	27.3	130	15.7	123
5	...	150	17.5	111	12.9	94
6	...	236	23.9	131	13.3	132
7	...	191	22.1	122	14.1	116
8	...	195	23.1	106	12.6	129
9	...	347	28.7	176	14.7	101
10	...	256	24.2	112	10.6	78
11	...	278	25.6	146	13.4	79
12	...	226	25.0	131	14.5	102
13	...	186	20.0	101	10.9	70
14	...	149	17.8	101	12.0	67
15	...	180	18.5	112	11.5	83
16	...	187	18.4	119	11.7	112
17	...	145	15.1	91	9.5	62
18	...	202	19.9	110	10.8	79
19	...	192	22.9	90	10.7	109
20	...	192	21.7	123	13.2	166
21	...	186	17.7	119	11.3	64
22	...	156	15.8	99	10.1	79
23	...	262	22.0	153	14.7	114
24	...	285	21.9	154	11.8	105
25	...	184	19.4	119	12.5	76
26	...	234	21.4	156	14.2	98
27	...	302	21.8	175	12.7	109
28	...	173	22.7	65	8.5	81
Whole City	...	5,976	21.7	3,436	12.5	101

TABLE 4.

Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Infantile Mortality Rate for the whole City for the past twenty-seven years.

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
1900	39.1	25.3	207
1901	35.1	20.9	208
1902	36.6	19.6	173
1903	34.6	18.2	179
1904	35.9	19.8	195
1905	33.6	19.8	191
1906	33.9	18.4	175
1907	33.5	19.0	162
1908	34.5	18.5	171
1909	33.1	19.4	163
1910	32.5	17.1	149
1911	31.3	19.6	203
1912	31.2	15.9	128
1913	31.9	18.7	169
1914	31.6	17.4	144
1915	26.9	18.4	147
1916	23.9	16.8	126
1917	20.8	16.5	116
1918	22.3	20.3	111
1919	22.5	16.2	111
1920	30.9	12.8	98
1921	29.0	14.8	134
1922	25.9	14.3	115
1923	24.6	12.7	93
1924	23.7	13.5	101
1925	22.9	13.5	106
1926	21.7	12.5	101

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered in the City during the year 1925 was 3,621. This gives a death rate of 13.1 per 1,000 of the population.

Of the total deaths 1,246 occurred in public institutions in the district. If the deaths of non-residents which occurred in the district be excluded and the deaths of residents which occurred beyond the district be included the nett deaths belonging to the district is 3,436 (1,851 males and 1,585 females), and the death rate 12.5 per 1,000.

The death rate for the 105 large towns of England and Wales was 11.6 per 1,000, and for the whole of England and Wales 11.6.

The death rate of 12.5 per 1,000 was 1.0 lower than that of 1925.

The death rate for the 105 large towns of England and Wales was 0.6 lower in 1926 than 1925.

The birth rate is lowest in the Stoke-upon-Trent District and highest in the Hanley district, the death rate is lowest in Stoke and highest in Burslem.

The number of deaths, and the death rates, in each of the districts of the City were as follows:—

		No of Deaths		Death Rate
Tunstall	...	384	...	13.4
Burslem	...	600	...	13.7
Hanley	...	879	...	12.6
Stoke	...	439	...	10.8
Fenton	...	312	...	11.3
Longton	...	582	...	13.3
Smallthorne, Bucknall, Norton, etc.	...	240	...	11.2

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

		1926	1925
Phthisis and other Tubercular Diseases	...	361	367
Congenital Debility and Malformation including			
Premature Birth	...	227	260
Bronchitis	...	436	496
Pneumonia	...	278	379
Organic Heart Disease	...	259	315
Cancer	...	332	311
Violence	...	110	93
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	104	107
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	103	77
Influenza	...	60	110

DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL ZYMATIC DISEASES.

		1926	1925
Smallpox	...	—	—
Enteric Fever	...	5	1
Diphtheria	...	22	19
Scarlet Fever	...	9	19
Whooping Cough	...	43	66
Measles	...	19	36
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	104	107

The death rate from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases was 0.73 per 1,000 of the population, compared to 0.89 per 1,000 in 1925. The Diarrhoea Death rate accounted for 0.38 per 1,000 compared to 0.38 in 1925.

The following table shows the death rate from the principal Zymotic Diseases compared with the death rate of the 105 large towns:—

	Stoke-on-Trent	Large Towns	105
	1926	1926	
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) per 1,000 births	15.9	...	11.8
Measles per 1,000 of population	0.07	...	0.12
Diphtheria ,,	0.08	...	0.10
Scarlet Fever ,,	0.03	...	0.02
Whooping Cough ,,	0.16	...	0.10
Enteric Fever ,,	0.018	...	0.01

Of the 3,436 deaths in the City, 30 or 0.9 per cent. were not certified either by a registered medical practitioner or by a coroner. In the 105 large towns the percentage of uncertified deaths was 0.5.

Death Rates in the various Wards of the City of Stoke-on-Trent for the year 1926.

Tunstall	Wards—1, 2 and 3.
Burslem	4, 5, 6, 7 and 8.
Hanley	9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15.
Stoke and Hanford	16, 17, 18 and 21.
Fenton	19, 20 and 22.
Longton, Meir, Adderley Green & Trentham	23, 24, 25 and 26.
Smallthorne, Norton, Chell, Brindley Ford, etc.	27.
Milton & Bucknall	28.

Blank	Under 12.0
Dots	12.0—13.4
Lines	13.5—14.9
Squares	15.0—16.4
Dark	16.5—17.9
Black	18.0 and over

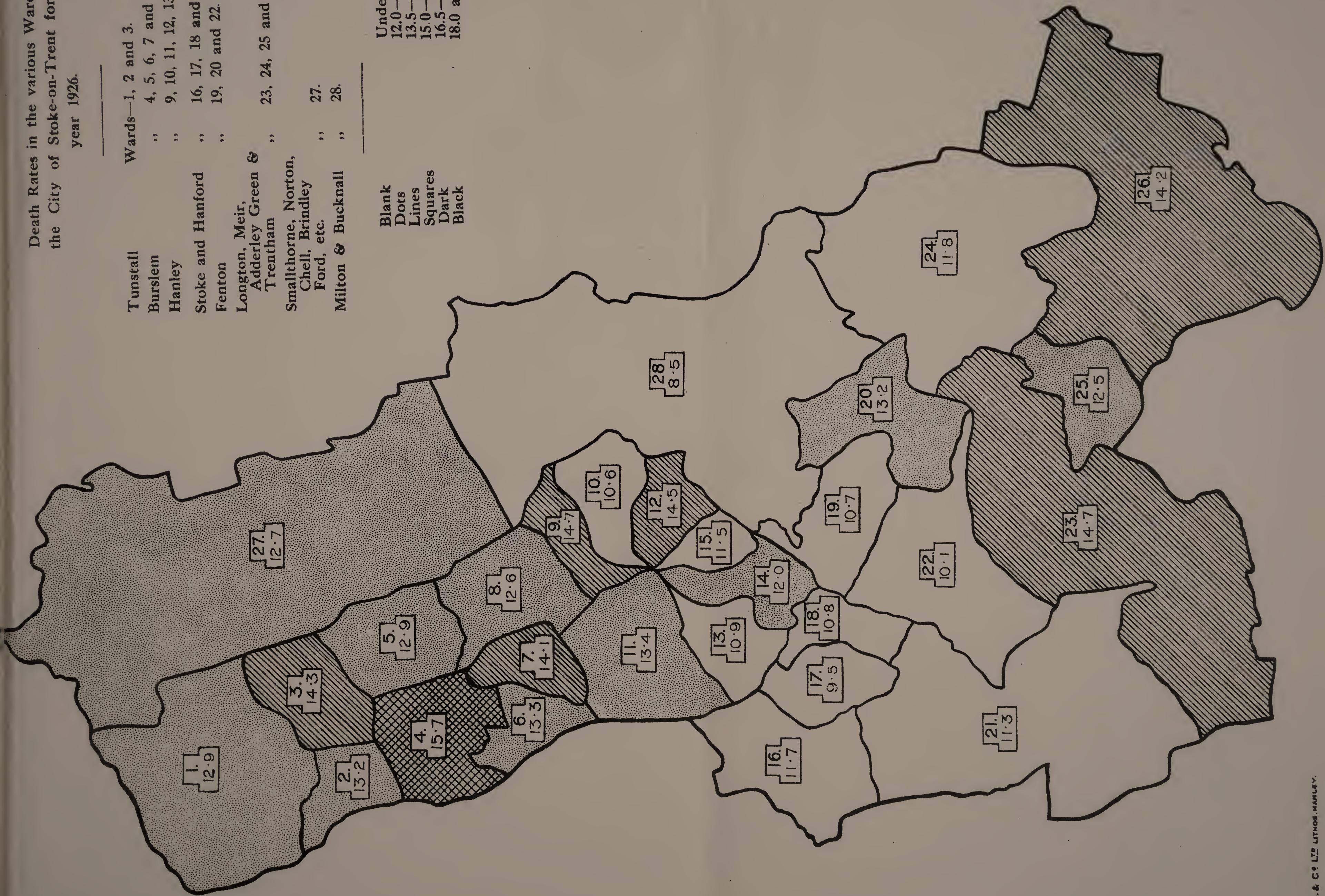


TABLE 5.
Causes of, and Ages at Death during the year 1926.

Causes of Death	Tunstall	Burslem	Hanley	Stoke	Fenton	Longton	Smallthorne, Norton, Bucknall etc. (Wards 27 & 28)	Net Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District									Total Deaths whether of 'Residents' or "Non- Residents" in Institu- tions in the district
								All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	
All Causes { Certified ...	382	594	877	438	305	573	237	3406	590	153	147	108	176	393	891	948	1246
All Causes { Uncertified	2	6	2	1	7	9	3	30	17					1	3	9	
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	5
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	3	4	3	2	—	2	5	19	4	6	5	3	—	—	—	—	6
Scarlet Fever ...	2	1	3	1	—	—	2	9	—	1	4	3	—	1	—	—	8
Whooping Cough ...	7	7	10	3	7	6	3	43	20	10	12	1	—	—	—	—	4
Diphtheria and Croup ...	6	2	3	5	1	4	1	22	1	4	7	8	1	—	1	—	19
Influenza ...	6	12	18	13	2	7	2	60	3	1	3	2	5	16	15	15	7
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	2	3	1	—	6	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	7
Phthisis Pulm'y Tub'losis ...	33	57	72	31	25	45	12	275	3	8	8	10	61	86	93	6	102
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	4	8	6	5	3	7	1	34	6	4	12	7	4	1	—	—	20
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	5	11	11	8	8	6	3	52	8	6	5	6	8	9	8	2	41
Cancer, Malignant Disease	22	56	83	58	32	66	15	332	—	—	—	—	2	39	169	122	146
Rheumatic Fever ...	1	2	3	3	—	3	1	13	—	—	1	4	3	3	—	2	6
Meningitis ...	2	2	8	3	—	5	—	20	13	1	4	—	1	—	1	—	11
Organic Heart Disease ...	33	41	74	28	24	39	20	259	—	—	1	4	9	22	95	128	49
Bronchitis ...	46	88	101	54	29	102	16	436	67	17	8	5	4	14	137	184	80
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	38	66	80	20	14	25	35	278	79	50	37	12	12	24	36	28	71
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ...	4	8	16	7	3	12	6	56	4	2	6	4	4	5	21	10	17
Diarrhoea and Enteritis...	9	21	28	7	13	9	8	95	81	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	34
Appendicitis & Typhlitis ...	—	2	4	1	1	2	2	12	—	—	2	4	3	1	1	1	24
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	—	1	5	3	2	3	1	15	—	—	—	—	1	7	7	7	5
Alcoholism ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Nephritis & Bright's Disease ...	9	16	21	16	9	24	8	103	1	—	1	3	9	16	44	29	24
Puerperal Fever ...	2	2	2	1	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	2	5	—	—	—	8
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ...	—	4	3	4	2	4	3	20	—	—	—	—	1	18	1	—	14
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth ...	20	41	49	25	27	44	21	227	222	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	46
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ...	14	19	27	15	13	12	10	110	4	5	8	14	13	28	20	18	79
Suicide ...	5	1	9	5	2	6	2	30	—	—	—	6	10	12	2	—	4
Other Defined Diseases...	III	127	240	116	87	144	60	885	90	21	20	18	27	89	226	394	405
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ...	2	1	—	—	3	3	2	11	—	1	—	—	1	1	3	5	3
TOTALS ...	384	600	879	439	312	582	240	3436	607	153	147	108	176	394	894	957	1246

The above figures include the following:—

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...

POOR LAW RELIEF.

Mr. T. Wood, Clerk to the Stoke-on-Trent and Wolstanton Union, has kindly supplied the following returns with reference to Poor Law Relief for the parishes in the City of Stoke-on-Trent:—

TOTAL COST OF OUT-DOOR RELIEF:—

For year ending 31st March, 1925	...	...	£45,501
" " " " 1926	...	...	£55,239
Number of persons in receipt of out-door relief on—			
31st March, 1925	...	...	3,409
31st March, 1926	...	...	3,265
Unemployed Relief, 31st March, 1925	...	...	197
" " " 1926	...	...	961

TOTAL COST OF IN-DOOR RELIEF:—

In maintenance (including cost of Provisions, Clothing, Heating, Lighting, Drugs, Medical and Surgical Appliances, and other necessaries, but excluding Buildings and Repairs, Furniture and Property, Rates, Loan Charges and Salaries).

For year ending 31st March, 1925	...	£39,808
" " " 1926	...	£40,844
Number of persons relieved in the Institution on—		
31st March, 1925	...	1,555
31st March, 1926	...	1,620

GRATUITOUS MEDICAL RELIEF.

NORTH STAFFS ROYAL INFIRMARY.

Number of Civilian In-Patients treated annually from November 1st, 1909, to October 31st, 1926:—

1909-10	...	...	2,193
1910-11	...	...	2,262
1911-12	...	...	2,370
1912-13	...	...	2,322
1913-14	...	...	2,549
1914-15	...	...	2,852
1915-16	...	...	2,632
1916-17	...	...	2,803
1917-18	...	...	2,947
1918-19	...	...	3,056
1919-20	...	...	3,440
1920-21	...	...	3,554
1921-22	...	...	3,907
1922-23	...	...	4,393
1923-24	...	...	4,794
1924-25	...	...	4,415
1925-26	...	...	4,794

The number of Out-Patients for the year ending October, 31st, 1926, was 31,469 as compared with 28,794 for the year ending October 31st, 1925.

In addition to the North Staffs. Infirmary there are two other Voluntary General Hospitals in the area, viz.: Haywood Hospital,

Burslem, and the Longton Cottage Hospital. The Haywood Hospital has 35 beds for In-Patients, and an Out-Patient Department. The Longton Cottage Hospital has 42 beds for In-Patients, and an Out-Patient Department.

There is also a Special Institution in connection with the North Staffordshire Cripples' Aid Society for dealing with Orthopaedic cases, including cases of surgical Tuberculosis.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are in the extended City 51,010 water closets, but of these approximately 14,503 have no flushing cistern attached. There are 718 pail closets and about 3,572 cesspit closets or privies.

The numbers of privies and pail closets converted into water closets during the years 1911 to 1926 were as follows:—

Year	Number				
1911	366
1912	338
1913	658
1914	1,150
1915	498
1916	38
1917	35
1918	45
1919	68
1920	181
1921	766
1922	829
1923	1,153
1924	662
1925	299
1926	185

SCAVENGING.

The following table gives the sanitary accommodation of the houses in the City in certain years:—

	1911	1921	1922	1925	1926
Number of houses including new houses and deducting demolitions	48,516	49,034	55,000	55,787	56,422
Census	Census	(approx.)			
Number of water-closets	18,601	23,480	25,668	28,770	29,680
Number of privies	6,428	2,635	4,998	3,742	3,572
Number of pail closets	1,285	907	1,540	733	718
Number of hand-flushed closets	...	13,934	13,801	14,826	14,606
Number of slop-water closets	...	7,142	7,020	7,080	6,965
Number of houses served by ashpits	...	24,825	18,299	19,025	14,564
Number of ashbins	...	24,670	32,864	37,945	44,947
Number of covered ashpits	...	—	—	—	7,691
					7,250

The work and methods for the removal and disposal of house refuse have been greatly improved during the year. The stables and horses at Tunstall and Fenton have been dispensed with, motors taking their places, and new garages have been provided at Burslem and Fenton. This has made it possible to close the Cottage Tip at Tunstall and the tip east of Fenton Park; The Tunstall refuse now being disposed of at the Burslem Salvage Works; and Fenton refuse has been distributed to the Hanley, Stoke and Longton Works as required, thus going a long way towards completing the improvement aimed at.

In the business centres the amount of shop refuse is largely on the increase. The receptacles in many instances are not satisfactory. Most shopping centres have a daily service.

All other ashbins are emptied once a week.

There has been a large decrease in the number of ashpits and a corresponding increase in the number of dustbins.

Nightsoil pails have been cleansed once weekly and privies at least once each month. Many houses are still grossly overcrowded, and where earthenware cisterns are in use a fortnightly collection is necessary instead of a monthly collection.

The amount of nightsoil to be removed is steadily decreasing, whole districts having been cleared of the foul cesspit system and the water carriage system adopted.

The removal of refuse from the new Housing Sites has proved very costly owing to the distance of the bins from the roadway, there being no access from the rear of the houses.

In preparing estimates during the past few years little notice has been taken of the increased number of houses to be attended to. During the past year 706 houses have been built and occupied and it is estimated that a large number will be completed and occupied in 1927.

The following table shows the number of times ashpits and cesspit closets were emptied during the years 1925 and 1926:—

ASHPITS.

			1925	1926
Packmoor	...	...	8	8
Tunstall	...	...	8	8
Burslem	...	...	8	6
Smallthorne	...	...	8	7
Hanley (north)	...	...	11	10
Hanley (south)	...	...	12	8
Bucknall	...	...	12	10
Milton	...	...	12	10
Stoke	...	...	12	12
Hanford and Trentham	...	...	12	12
Fenton	...	...	9	10
Longton	...	...	10	8
Meir	...	...	10	8
Adderley Green	...	...	10	8

CESSPITS.

			1925	1926
Packmoor	...	...	12	14
Tunstall	...	...	12	14
Burslem	...	...	12	10
Smallthorne	...	...	13	14
Hanley (north)	...	...	12	13
Hanley (south)	...	...	12	12
Bucknall	...	...	14	12
Milton	...	...	14	12
Stoke	...	...	13	13
Hanford and Trentham	...	...	13	13
Fenton	...	...	13	13
Longton	...	...	13	13
Meir	...	...	13	13
Adderley Green	...	...	13	13

An agreement has been arrived at with the Sewage Committee whereby they undertake to receive and treat all nightsoil at the various Sewage Works.

Nightsoil has still to be tipped on land in the City at Packmoor, Brindley Ford, Chell Heath, because of the inaccessibility of the Tunstall Sewage Works.

Until the bridge is strengthened and the road approach improved at Tunstall Sewage Works it will not be possible to dispose of nightsoil except on the land at Packmoor, Brindley Ford and Chell Heath.

In all other cases it is dealt with at the Sewage Works. Prior to the extension of the Borough Boundaries in April, 1922, all nightsoil was taken to the Sewage Works ; all the foregoing districts are parts of the added areas.

The average number of teams employed during the year was 54.2 ; there were also 14 motors. Of the teams 40.7 were owned by the Corporation and 13.5 were hired. The teams were allocated as follows :—

Removal of Refuse. Own teams 12,096 Shifts. Hired Teams, 2,639 Shifts.

Removal of Nightsoil. Own Teams 168 Shifts. Hired Teams, 1,412 Shifts.

One two-ton Napier, three two-ton Vulcans, one 30-cwt. Ford, and one S.D. Freighter were engaged on the removal of refuse all the year. An S.D. Freighter commenced work in July and a further one in December. Three Daimlers commenced work in September, October and November respectively. Two one-ton Fords and a two-ton Vulcan were employed on the work of nightsoil removal all the year.

The cost per ton of removing house refuse in December, 1926 was Six Shillings and Two Pence, while in December, 1925 the cost per ton was the same.

The month of May saw the commencement of the Coal Dispute and with it a rapid increase in the quantity of house refuse to collect.

For the twelve months ending December, 31st, 1926, 83,282 tons were removed, while for the year ending December, 31st, 1925, 69,270 tons were removed, an increase of 14,012 tons.

This extraordinary amount of refuse necessitated the employment of a number of hired teams, and also compelled refuse to be tipped, while the Destuctors worked at full pressure.

The following table shows the amount of refuse removed during the past three years:—

		1924	1925	1926
Loads delivered to Disposal Works ...	...	44,834	41,862	46,952
Loads Tipped ... ... ... ...	...	18,375	18,259	17,638
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Loads of Refuse Removed ...	...	63,209	60,121	64,590
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Tons Destroyed ... ... ... ...	...	52,139	42,838	43,986
Tons extracted by Screening (Hanley Works)		—	3,136	7,521
Tons dealt with by Screening and Pulverising (Burslem Works) ... ... ...	...	—	2,946	11,854
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Tons dealt with at Works ...	...	52,139	48,920	63,361
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Loads of Nightsoil Removed ...	...	10,006	9,303	9,149

There are four Destuctors in the area, one each at Burslem, Hanley, Stoke and Longton.

There are in addition, Salvage Plants at Hanley and Burslem Works.

The following is a record of the work done at the Destructor Works:—

HANLEY DESTRUCTOR WORKS.

Eighty tons of refuse can be dealt with daily by the furnaces.

The Screening and Sorting Plant, which is capable of dealing with One Hundred and Twenty Tons daily, started operations in July, 1925.

The weight of refuse destroyed during the year was 24,495 tons.

The weight of refuse Screened was 20,967 tons.

The weight of refuse extracted by Screening was 7,521 tons.

The weight of Mortar made and sold was 1,258 tons, 13 cwts.

Concrete Slabs manufactured, 1,127 square yards.

Concrete Slabs sold, 1,092 square yards

Scrap Tin sold, 162 tons 9 cwts.

Crushed Clinker sold, 90 tons.

Rags, bones, scrap metals, sacking and other materials realised the sum of £150.

LONGTON DESTRUCTOR WORKS.

Capacity, 56 tons daily.

Refuse destroyed, 13,239 tons.

Mortar made and sold, 1,264 tons.

Scrap iron and tin sold, 27 tons.

BURSLEM DESTRUCTOR WORKS.

Forty-five tons of refuse daily is the capacity of the furnaces, while the new screening, sorting and pulverising plant, which commenced work in August, 1925, is capable of dealing with 60 tons per day.

Owing to the necessity of considerable repairs to the Destructor furnaces, they were only used for the destruction of light refuse unfit for being dealt with by the Salvage Plant.

Refuse destroyed, 1,304 tons 12 cwts.

Refuse dealt with by screening sorting and pulverising 11,854 tons.

Scrap Tin sold, 99 tons.

Rags, bones, scrap metals, sacking and other material realised the sum of £163.

STOKE DESTRUCTOR WORKS.

Capacity, 45 tons daily.

Weight of refuse destroyed during the year, 14,308 tons, 5 cwts.

The weight of mortar made and sold was 2,838 tons, 12 cwts.

The weight of crushed clinker manufactured was 780 tons.

The weight of crushed clinker sold was 947 tons.

The concrete slabs manufactured were 624 square yards.

The concrete slabs sold were 811 square yards.

Scrap iron and tin sold, 34 tons 2 cwts. 3 qrs.

The following is a table showing the destination of the refuse not delivered to the Destructor Works for incineration or salvage:—

						Loads
Tunstall.	*Cottage Tip, Clayhills	...	...	...	...	4,979
	*Oxford	...	...	...	...	36
	Fernyhough's Farm	...	...	...	...	1,631
	Newfields	...	...	...	...	82
	Linehouses	...	...	...	...	104
Packmoor.	Kirkham's Farm	...	...	...	...	615
Smallthorne.	*The Flatts, Norton	...	...	...	...	73
	*Bradley	...	...	...	...	113
	Wedgwood Farm, Brindley Ford	...	...	...	...	663
Burslem.	Sytch Tip	...	...	...	...	982
Hanley.	Sneyd Street	...	...	...	...	734
	Destructor Field	...	...	...	...	1,212
Bucknall.	*Sandholes	...	...	...	...	616
Stoke.	*Hanford Tileries	...	...	...	...	194
	Sideway	...	...	...	...	930

Fenton.	*Baileys'	1,742
	*Sargeant's	9
	*Stanley's, Blurton	30
Longton.	Dividy Lane, Adderley Green	300
	Lightwood	204
	Balfour	1,436
	Meir	662
	Miscellaneous	291
		17,638

*These tips have now been discontinued.

PAPER.

During the year 228 tons of paper, were disposed of.

WASTE ELIMINATOR PLANT.

This plant was in operation the whole year.

MATERIAL RECEIVED.

Meat			Fish			Offals			Total		
T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.
54	4	0	152	6	2	4	16	2	211	7	0

MATERIAL PRODUCED.

Meat Meal		Meat and Bone Meal		Fish Meal		Fats		Total			
T.	C.	T.	C.	T.	C.	T.	C.	T.	C.	Q.	
18	1	1	5	5	3	47	7	0	6	11	2

For the year ending 31st March, 1926, the net expenditure incurred in dealing with refuse and nightsoil, inclusive of destruction and salvage, but exclusive of loan charges, was £44,768, in the previous year it was £40,560.

In April the question of collecting butchers' offals arose and after careful consideration the Committee decided that the butchers could not be relieved of the duty to remove offals to the place the Corporation provided for the purpose.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

During the year 1926, 18,053 nuisances were dealt with compared with 17,531 in 1925.

Table of premises visited and of re-visits made:—

Districts	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total
Houses completely examined on account of—												
Infectious diseases...	177	178	56	94	108	23	85	66	65	92	67	1011
Alleged nuisances ...	19	—	15	20	71	15	5	8	—	—	—	153
House inspection ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	4
Houses in which examinations were made in relation to—												
Overcrowding ...	14	13	3	7	12	4	9	2	1	1	5	71
Drainage ...	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Structure ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	5
Total number of above houses ...	211	191	78	121	191	44	103	76	66	93	74	1248
Total number of above houses in which defects were found ...	103	41	46	39	101	30	23	44	24	17	40	508
Number of defects in above houses ...	428	224	246	282	616	238	83	137	86	62	110	2512
Premises visited for other reasons than those set out above	2409	2918	1993	3034	1981	2980	2842	2667	3809	3634	3165	31432
Revisits to nuisances...	3915	2457	2221	1903	3196	2785	2207	2870	1893	3359	2914	29720
Revisits to infectious disease ...	75	52	41	55	31	35	250	124	101	65	41	870

Table of defects discovered and dealt with:—

District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total Nuisances Found
Houses dirty	—	10	23	7	13	8	4	16	7	13	16	117
„ overcrowded ...	—	—	—	2	1	—	2	4	1	13	5	28
„ damp or dilapidated ...	467	634	552	775	718	466	256	738	410	312	580	5908
„ badly lighted or ventilated ...	111	72	8	19	14	37	4	19	14	33	19	350
Drainage defective ...	37	3	56	22	54	15	38	18	43	44	42	372
„ no disconnection	3	2	14	—	3	4	3	2	5	1	1	38
„ want of	18	18	9	1	13	—	9	4	22	12	32	138
„ stopped	60	53	71	52	157	28	40	67	67	83	77	757
Sinks defective or required	64	43	43	6	44	56	31	31	51	73	75	517
Bath, lavatory and sink waste pipes untrapped	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Other drainage defects	45	47	59	3	66	82	36	76	27	68	85	604
Privies defective ...	1	—	13	—	1	4	1	—	—	1	3	25
Additional closets required	3	1	1	—	4	—	5	1	2	—	2	19
Defects in W.C's ...	323	131	29	95	208	34	165	191	324	283	283	2066
W.C's without flush ...	9	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	4	17
Waste water-closets defective	—	32	—	2	4	—	—	3	2	—	3	46
Ashpits open	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
„ required	109	123	19	103	39	21	33	128	67	137	110	889
„ structure defective	51	80	11	68	29	22	39	72	35	51	79	537
Ashbins defective ...	94	190	43	134	286	53	117	206	127	109	76	1435
Outbuildings-defects...	74	25	32	41	6	61	31	3	40	30	45	388
Paving	188	147	85	30	58	41	74	94	147	99	121	1084
Houses without water supply	12	19	7	23	35	23	2	2	21	18	25	187
Other house nuisances	12	5	111	6	11	11	25	11	58	46	36	332
Accumulations dealt with	106	61	44	10	38	20	10	22	68	82	25	486
Manure receptacles ...	2	—	3	—	2	—	1	—	—	3	1	12
Keeping of animals ...	8	1	11	12	6	—	3	7	11	12	1	72
Other outside nuisances	18	53	25	20	48	13	41	3	176	56	26	479
TOTALS ...	1822	1751	1270	1432	1859	999	982	1718	1726	1579	1774	16912

The number of Informal Notices served during the year was 2,031, and the number of Statutory Notices, 5,037.

Complaints.

During the year, 1,734 complaints were received, 1,017 at the office, and 717 by the District Inspectors—165 of the total were unfounded.

Included in the total of 1,017 are 740 referred from the Health Visitors and Tuberculosis Nurses.

The following matters brought to the notice of the Department during the year were referred to the City Surveyor:—

Dangerous structures	...	...	8
Offensive sewer ventilators	...	...	9
Stopped sewers	...	...	17
Stopped surface water gullies	...	...	5
Defective street paving	...	...	9
Other matters	...	...	70
			—
			118

Complaints were received with regard to 113 cases of overcrowding. These were investigated, 29 of the complaints were unfounded and in 84 instances the fact of overcrowding was established, in 28 of these the overcrowding was subsequently remedied.

The standard taken in estimating overcrowding is 300 cubic feet for each adult, two children under 11 years of age being taken as one adult.

Inspection of Drainage Work.

District	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total
New drains inspected..	5	10	7	1	10	17	17	1	14	14	39	135
Revisits while work in progress	—	8	21	38	43	59	75	12	39	34	149	478
Drains inspected after reconstruction ...	10	14	69	1	15	24	25	7	17	15	44	241
Revisits while work in progress	48	79	203	66	41	11	94	32	46	6	102	728
Other visits on account of drainage works ...	47	48	156	77	28	209	42	75	14	33	45	774

Drain Testing.

Chemical:—	Negative	...	446
	Positive	...	81
Colour	Negative	...	43
	Positive	...	28
Smoke:—	Negative	...	304
	Positive	...	23
Machine:—	Negative	...	1
	Positive	...	3
Hydraulic:—	Negative	...	—
	Positive	...	—
			—
Total:—	Negative	...	794
	Positive	...	135

Of the above tests 316 were applied on account of infectious disease 157 were made on receipt of complaints, and 456 were made during the progress of drainage work.

Voluntary Conversion of Privies, etc.

Privies converted ...	...	...	10
Pails converted ...	...	...	2
Waste water-closets converted ...			27
Additional water-closets provided			15
Hand-flushed closets converted...			16

Conversion of Privies, etc.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907.

During the year the work of converting privies and pails into water-closets was continued. The number of conversions completed under this scheme during the year was 165 consisting of 152 privies, and 13 pails.

Privies demolished ...	...	...	14
Openings under Section 41, Public Health Act, 1875	...	...	50

DRAIN TESTING IN CONNECTION WITH THE SCHEME.

DRAIN TESTS	COLOUR		SMELL		ROCKETS		TOTAL	
	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Pos.
New Drains ...	—	—	27	—	297	27	324	27
Repaired Drains ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
Old Drains ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	—	—	27	—	299	27	326	27

SUMMARY OF WORK OF CONVERSION OF ROCHDALE PAILS, 1926.

Number of pails for which notices have been served	...	...	6
Number of pails for which contracts have been signed	...	...	6
Number of pails completed by contract	...	...	13
Number of pails in progress by direct labour	...	...	20
Number of pails completed by owners after notice	...	...	—
Number of pails in progress by owners after notice	...	...	—

SUMMARY OF WORK OF CONVERSION OF PRIVIES, YEAR 1926.

Number of privies for which notices have been served	...	...	326
Number of privies for which contracts have been sent out	...	...	84

Number of privies completed:—

(a) By contract	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
(b) By direct labour	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
(c) By owners after notice	...	...	...	...	...	...	160

Number of privies in progress:—

(a) By contract	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
(b) By Direct labour	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
(c) By owners after notice	...	...	...	...	...	3	28

Work carried out during the year under Section 62, Public Health Act, 1875, and Section 49, Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907. Additional sinks, drainage, and water supplied to dwelling houses where one tap previously served several houses.

District where provided	Number of water taps	Number of sinks	New drainage provided to sinks
Burslem	9	9	9
Stoke	7	5	5
Total	16	14	14

Legal Proceedings.

(1)	There were 54 summonses taken out to enforce the compliance of notices.	£	s.	d.
(a)	In 22 proceedings were withdrawn on payment of costs, the work having been complied with after the service of the summons, the costs amounting to	3	17	0
(b)	In 25 cases, the Court made the necessary Order and imposed costs amounting to	23	11	6
(c)	In 7 instances of smoke nuisance, orders for abatement within three months were made. Orders and costs amounted to	12	10	0
(2)	The Department obtained Contracts to carry out works to abate nuisances after the service of notices which were not complied with by the owners. The total amount of which was £468 7s., and in 29 instances, proceedings had to be taken to recover monies expended under Section 39 of the Public Health Act (Amendment Act), 1907, and Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1875. The Court made the necessary Orders and imposed costs amounting to	11	5	0

Two cases of fish frying on premises without a license were brought before the Court, fines and costs being inflicted to the amount of

Ashbins.

During the year 1,349 notices were served on owners requiring them to provide sufficient ashes accommodation. In many cases, on the expiration of the time stated in the notices, it was found that bins had not been provided, the Corporation delivered them and the owners were charged with the cost.

The number thus delivered during the year was 914

Free Ashbin Scheme.

The Free Ashbin Scheme was re-commenced in May, and under this scheme property owners were supplied with a first ashbin free on demolishing or suitably altering a covered ashpit.

Under this arrangement 1,033 ashbins were delivered during the year at a cost of £391 13s. 7d., and 440 covered ashpits were either demolished or so altered as to prevent their further use as ashpits.

Byelaws.

Byelaws are in force in the City with respect to:—

- New Streets and Buildings ;
- Slaughterhouses ;
- Nuisances ;
- Common Lodging Houses ;
- Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops ;
- Public Conveniences ;
- Houses Let in Lodgings ;
- Offensive Trades ;
- Removal of Offensive and Noxious Matters.

Offensive Trades.

There are in the area:—

- Three Knacker's Yards ;
- Two Skin Markets ;
- Several Bone Burning Works ;
- Several Marine Stores, Tripe Boilers, and Gut Scrapers ;
- One Fat Melter ;
- A large number of Fish Fryers.

A list of Offensive Trades has been scheduled by the Authority and Byelaws are in force for their control.

The list of Scheduled Trades is as follows:—Fish friers, tripe boilers ; dealers in rags, bones, fat, animal skins or other like matter in an offensive condition ; manure manufacturers ; brick burners, gut scrapers, bone burners, tanners, leather dressers, fat melters or fat extractors, glue makers, size makers (except Potter's sizes), and blood driers.

GUT SCRAPING.

There are two premises specially used for Gut Scraping. Under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, Gut Scraping is prohibited in slaughterhouses. No complaints have been received.

KNACKERS' YARDS.

There are three Knacker's Yards; four complaints were received of nuisances at these premises, these were remedied.

SKIN YARDS.

There are two Skin Yards; one at Cross Street, Stoke, and one at Mollart Street, Hanley. Three complaints were received of nuisances at these premises. One of the Skin Yards is situated in a congested area and is very unsatisfactory.

FAT MELTING (EDIBLE).

This trade is carried on on a large scale and in a satisfactory manner at the Public Abattoirs, Hanley. Up-to-date machinery is installed and no complaints have been received of any nuisance arising.

TRIPE BOILING.

There are many tripe shops in the City, but in most cases the tripe is bought ready cleaned. The greater part of the tripe cleaned in the City is dealt with at seven establishments. Two complaints were received as to nuisances arising. Some of the premises are unsatisfactory.

MARINE STORES.

There are as last year, 10 Marine Stores; lead, metal, rags, bones and bottles are the chief materials dealt with. These premises have been periodically inspected and found to be in a fairly satisfactory condition. The total number of inspections was 36.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

During the year in three instances, permission was given for premises to be used for the purpose of fish frying. 1,769 visits have been made to the premises used for this purpose. 86 defects were found and dealt with. The condition of the utensils, pans, etc., was generally found to be satisfactory. The Authority does not now permit a room in an ordinary working class dwelling house to be converted into a fried fish shop.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are 12 common lodging houses in the City. During the year 599 inspections of common lodging houses were made—579 by day, and 20 by night. Fifty-seven notices were served for the rectifying of minor offences, they were all complied with.

The 12 lodging houses are registered for the accommodation of 374 persons per night. There were, according to the returns sent in, 80,014 persons accommodated during the year, as compared with 85,635 in 1925.

The premises are in the majority of cases old houses adapted for the purpose and some of the buildings are in a very poor condition.

There is room for one or two model lodging houses in the City—the Council has considered the matter but deferred taking action.

Houses Let in Lodgings.

There are now on the register 135 houses. Five hundred and seventy-four inspections were made during the year. One hundred and eight defects were found, these have since received attention.

SMOKE NUISANCES.

For the abatement of Smoke nuisances 682 timed observations of half-an-hour each have been taken of boiler chimneys during the year, as compared with 872 in the previous year.

In addition to the above 11 observations have been taken of one hour each.

Nineteen complaints have been received during the year and investigated.

One hundred and four notices have been served for the abatement of Smoke nuisances and fifty-nine special slips have been left at various firms giving the results of observations.

Warnings have been given in 179 instances. Eight cases have been reported for prosecution. Proceedings before the Court have been ordered in seven cases and orders were made for the abatement of the nuisance. In six instances an abatement order was made for one month, and one for three months.

Seventy-two visits have been made to Brick, Tile and Marl works and twenty-six visits to Collieries, and the Managers and Firemen interviewed.

Of the 682 half-hour observations taken, 438 showed black smoke emitted for four minutes or more during the half-hour. The number of observations showing no black smoke was 99.

The number of observations emitting black smoke, but not exceeding the time limit, was 145.

OBSERVATIONS.

							1925	1926
Boiler Stack	...	...	...	...	...	...	907	693
Oven Stack	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	56
Kiln	...	...	...	...	...	...	58	54

INSPECTION OF—

					1925	1926
Boilers	...	...	...	...	650	596
Ovens	...	...	...	...	95	169
Kilns	...	...	...	...	172	217
Interviews with owners or occupiers				...	575	602
Interviews with Engineers and Firemen				...	1059	1018
Warnings given	...	...	...	...	189	179
Preliminary notices served	...	...	...	...	19	18
Statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	117	86
Improvements effected	...	...	...	...	125	108
Re-inspection of premises	...	...	...	...	156	160

DEMONSTRATIONS IN FIRING.

					1925	1926
Boilers	...	...	...	...	37	39
Kilns	...	...	...	...	3	—
Ovens	...	...	...	...	—	—
Reports for non-abatement	...	...	...	...	15	8
Special reports submitted	...	...	...	...	16	10
Visits for other causes	...	...	...	...	284	311
Prosecutions	...	...	...	...	18	7

The following is a summary of the alterations made, and appliances fitted in order to prevent the emission of excessive quantities of smoke:—

					1925	1926
Air tubes fitted	...	...	...	...	4	4
Boilers provided	...	...	...	...	4	1
Flues cleaned	...	...	...	...	19	25
Improvement in Fuel	...	...	...	...	12	9
Improvement in Firing	...	...	...	...	34	22
Mirrors fixed or replaced	...	...	...	...	7	2
New Boiler Stacks	...	...	...	...	6	3
Patent Joints fitted	...	...	...	...	2	2
Patent Grates provided	...	...	...	...	10	17
Patent Bars fitted in Sets	...	...	...	...	6	4
Patent Furnaces provided	...	...	...	...	5	7
Smoke Consumers fitted	...	...	...	...	29	22
Steam Jets provided	...	...	...	...	6	2
Repairs to Boilers, Boiler Furnaces, Brickwork, Economisers, Kiln Furnaces, Ovens, Stacks and Ventilators	...	...	...	...	57	49

The following is a summary of the results of the half-hour observations taken of Boiler chimneys:—

Number of chimneys observed	...	...	...	...	192
Number of observations taken	...	...	...	...	682
Average number of observations taken per chimney				...	3.55

RESULTS OF OBSERVATIONS:—

		Black	Moderate	None
Total amount of smoke in minutes	...	3873 $\frac{1}{2}$	8431	8155 $\frac{1}{2}$
Average amount of smoke in minutes	...	5.69	12.33	11.98

OVENS AND KILNS.

During the year 54 timed observations have been made of kilns and 56 of ovens.

155 interviews have been held with Kiln Firemen, 127 with Oven Firemen, and 109 with other Oddmen and Assistants.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

An Inspector was appointed by the Council in March, 1920 and has been continually at work since that date.

The number of rats known to have been killed during the year, and the methods employed were as follows:—

Poisons	...	...	...	...	...	1409
Dogs and Ferrets	...	...	...	...	...	1651
Traps	...	...	...	...	...	701
Bird Lime	...	...	...	...	...	440
Clearing Packing Houses						920
						—
						5121

The number of visits paid to various premises was as follows:—

Factories	...	...	...	...	...	519
Farms and Stables	...	...	...	...	...	486
Shops and Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	442
Private Houses	...	...	...	...	...	540
Warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	423
Collieries and Ironworks	...	...	...	...	...	53
Garden Allotments	...	...	...	...	...	54
Hotels and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	262
Schools, Hospitals, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	43
Tips	...	...	...	...	...	43
Picture Palaces	...	...	...	...	...	88
Market Halls and Town Yards	...	...	...	...	...	220
Corporation Housing Site	...	...	...	...	...	83
						—
						3256

During the year £67 4s. 11d was paid to the Corporation by various owners of premises for work done by the Officer...

Methods of Dealing with Infested Premises.

POISONS USED:—

1. Phosphorus preparations. Rodine and Harrisons, both have been used with good results.
2. BARIUM CARBONATE (Commercial).
 - (a) Made up in paste. Good results.
 - (b) Mixed with castor sugar, oatmeal and salt, used dry and wrapped up in tissue paper. Fair results.
3. STRYCHNINE.

This poison is too deadly for general use, and only used for mice in safe places, put between butter puff biscuits. Good results.

Rat proofing of premises is the most effective preventive measure, and has been carried out on 56 premises, and all are now clear of rodents.

Schools.

The Medical Officer of Health is not the School Medical Officer.

All the schools were inspected four times during the year in relation to the sanitary conditions and water supply. The list of sanitary defects numbering 592 were referred to the Education Authority.

School Closure.

Two schools were closed on account of the presence of diphtheric carriers in these schools.

Sanitary condition of Theatres, Music Halls, etc.

There are thirty picture palaces and theatres. These premises were inspected periodically, and 38 minor defects found were immediately remedied by the managers.

Distribution of Lime and Lime Brushes.

Facilities exist throughout the district for the free distribution of lime and and loan of whitewash brushes for the cleansing of houses where this is desirable, this has assisted in obtaining a higher standard of cleanliness in the poorer class of houses.

Public Urinals.

The whole of the public urinals were systematically inspected. They were found to be in a fairly satisfactory condition.

Milk Supply.

Milkshops and Purveyors of Milk.

The following statement shows the number of purveyors of milk registered under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926

Number on register at 31st December, 1926	329
Number registered during the year	26
Visits paid	1,421

In general a good standard of cleanliness is being maintained throughout.

The effort made to obtain better storage of both milk and receptacles used where mixed businesses are carried on is meeting with considerable success. Separate accommodation is strictly insisted upon when dealing with new applications for registration.

Cowsheds.

The number of cowsheds on the register is 337. Visits paid 624. The number of dairies on the register is 223. Visits paid, 172.

All the sheds have been limewashed at least twice during the past year.

Repairs have been carried out at the following cowsheds during the past year. Holly Greave Farm ; Ubberley Farm, Ubberley ; Knapper's Gate, Trent Vale ; Park Farm ; Furnace Farm, Fenton Park. Two new sheds have been erected, namely, Botteslow Farm, Botteslow ; Sneyd Green Farm, Sneyd Green ; plans have been passed for improvements at the following cowsheds—Bemmersley Green and Bull Lane, Brindley Ford.

The approximate number of cows throughout the district is 1,959 as compared with 1,842 in the previous year.

**Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and
the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915.**

Three hundred and eighty-two samples of milk were taken during the year and 22 proved to be not genuine on analysis. None were found to contain preservative.

Ten samples of milk were specially examined for the presence of dirt, nine were certified to contain less than two parts of moist dirt per 100,000, and one to contain three parts per 100,000. In the latter case proceedings were successfully instituted under the Food and Drugs Acts.

Seventy-one samples of milk were taken for examination as to the presence of Tuberle Bacilli, four were reported to contain Tuberle Bacilli. The powers conferred by the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, were put into operation in all four cases.

**Report of the Administration of the Public Health (Milk and Cream) Regulations, 1912 and 1917, City of Stoke-on-Trent,
for the Year Ending, December, 1926.**

I. MILK AND CREAM NOT SOLD AS PRESERVED CREAM.

	(a)	(b)
Milk	383	Nil
Cream	4	Nil

2. CREAM SOLD AS PRESERVED CREAM.

(a) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statements on the label as to preservatives were correct.

1. Correct statements made	...	...	16
2. Statements incorrect	...	...	0
			—

Total ... 16

The percentage of Boric Acid found in the samples was as follows— 0.35, 0.30, 0.30, 0.33, 0.23, 0.20, 0.34, 0.38, 0.14, 0.40, 0.36, 0.25, 0.08, 0.23, 0.40, 0.36. In all cases the percentage stated on the label was 0.40% of Boric Acid.

(b) Determinations made of milk fat in cream sold as preserved cream.

1. Above 35%	...	...	...	...	16
2. Below 35%	...	...	...	...	0
					—

Total ... 16

(c) Instances where (apart from analysis) the requirement as to labelling or declaration of preserved cream in Article V (1) and the proviso in Article V (2) have not been observed.

Nil.

3. THICKENING SUBSTANCES FOUND:—

Nil.

4. OTHER OBSERVATIONS—

The percentage of milk fat found in samples of Preserved Cream were as follows:—

Sample No.	57	...	...	...	...	...	Fat	49.85%
„ „	113	...	...	...	...	...	„	52.04%
„ „	114	...	...	...	...	...	„	56.91%
„ „	168	...	...	...	...	...	„	55.76%
„ „	172	...	...	...	...	...	„	52.93%
„ „	204	...	...	...	...	...	„	51.16%
„ „	205	...	...	...	...	...	„	54.30%
„ „	206	...	...	...	...	...	„	48.41%
„ „	216	...	...	...	...	...	„	57.54%
„ „	217	...	...	...	...	...	„	45.21%
„ „	264	...	...	...	...	...	„	50.08%
„ „	266	...	...	...	...	...	„	49.50%
„ „	267	...	...	...	...	...	„	53.85%
„ „	268	...	...	...	...	...	„	53.76%
„ „	358	...	...	...	...	...	„	64.87%
„ „	359	...	...	...	...	...	„	60.10%

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The number of Samples taken for Analysis by the Public Analyst during the year was 718.

Table giving Number of Samples, etc.

	Total number of Samples submitted for Analysis	Formal	Informal	Result of Analysis	
				Genuine	Not Genuine
4	Almonds, Ground	...	—	4	—
9	Apples, Jonathan	...	9	—	—
1	„ Spitzenberg	...	1	—	—
1	„ Stark	...	—	1	—
9	„ Winesap	...	9	—	6
1	„ Newtown	...	1	—	1
7	—	...	6	1	6
1	Apple Jelly	...	—	1	—
2	Arrowroot	...	2	—	2
1	Baking Powder	...	—	1	—
10	Beef Suet, Shredded	...	9	1	6
2	Beef Suet, Chopped	...	2	—	2
3	Brawn	...	3	—	3
6	Blackcurrant Jam	...	4	2	5
1	Blackcurrant Jelly	...	—	1	—
7	Bread	...	7	—	7
31	Butter	...	6	25	31
11	Cakes, Sponge	...	11	—	10
4	Camphorated Oil	...	4	—	4
17	Cheshire Cheese	...	17	—	16
1	Cheese, Cream	...	—	1	—
2	Cinnamon, Ground	...	—	2	—
9	Cocoa	...	—	9	9
1	Cocoanut, Dried	...	—	1	—
4	Coffee and Chicory Essence	...	—	4	4
3	Cornflour	...	—	3	3
4	Cream	...	4	—	4
16	Cream, Preserved	...	16	—	16
1	Custard Powder	...	—	1	—
2	Demerara Sugar	...	—	2	2
3	Dripping	...	3	—	2
2	Eucalyptus Oil	...	2	—	2
7	Flour, Self-raising	...	—	7	7
1	Formaldehyde	...	—	1	—
5	Ginger, Ground	...	2	3	5
8	Golden Syrup	...	8	—	7
2	Glycerine	...	2	—	2
1	Honey	...	—	1	—
9	Ices	...	9	—	9
7	Jam	...	6	1	7
5	Lard	...	4	1	5
2	Lemon Curd	...	2	—	2
4	Lime Water	...	4	—	4
1	Linseed, Crushed	...	—	1	—
4	Margarine	...	—	4	4
1	Marmalade	...	1	—	1
383	Milk	...	382	1	361
616	Totals carried forward...	...	536	80	581
					35

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS—*continued.*

	Total number of Samples submitted for Analysis	Formal	Informal	Result of Analysis	
				Genuine	Not Genuine
616	Totals brought forward	...	536	80	581
21	Milk (Appeal to Cow)	...	21	—	13
7	Milk, Condensed	...	6	1	7
1	Mustard	...	—	1	1
4	Mincemeat	...	1	3	4
3	Olive Oil	...	3	—	3
4	Paregoric Elixer	...	2	2	4
1	Paste, Bloater	...	1	—	1
1	„ Chicken and Ham	...	1	—	1
1	„ Chicken, Ham and Tongue	...	—	1	—
3	„ Lobster	...	1	2	3
1	„ Salmon and Shrimp	...	1	—	1
1	„ Veal and Ham	...	—	1	1
1	Pears, Beure Bosc	...	—	1	—
2	„ Keiffer	...	2	—	1
1	„ Louise Bonne	...	—	1	—
1	Prawns	...	1	—	1
2	Rice	...	2	—	2
1	Rice, Ground	...	—	1	1
4	Sausage	...	4	—	4
1	Soda, Bicarbonate of	...	—	1	1
2	Spirits, Rum	...	2	—	1
2	„ Whisky	...	2	—	2
2	Sugar, Demerara	...	—	2	2
1	„ Raw	...	1	—	1
1	Table Jelly	...	—	1	1
10	Tea	...	—	10	10
13	Vinegar	...	13	—	12
9	„ Malt	...	9	—	9
1	„ Raspberry	...	1	—	1
718		610	108	670	48

Formal Samples 610. Informal Samples, 108. Genuine, 670. Not Genuine, 48.

All informal sampling was carried out by Agents.

30 samples of milk were taken in course of delivery at railway stations.

The average standard of fat in the milk samples for each quarter was as follows:—

Quarter ending March 31st.	83 samples	...	...	3.63%
„ „ June 30th,	87	„	...	3.77%
„ „ Sept. 30th,	107	„	...	3.36%
„ „ Dec. 31st,	106	„	...	3.79%

Proceedings under the Acts were Instituted as follows:—

Date of Purchase	Charge	Results	Penalty	Costs
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1926				
Jan. 28th	Selling vinegar 17% deficient in Acetic Acid	Convicted	2 2 0	1 0 0
Feb. 15th	Selling milk containing 6% of added water	Convicted	4 0 0	1 0 0
April 8th	Selling milk 8% deficient in fat..	Convicted	1 0 0	1 0 0
May 18th	Selling Milk 7% deficient in fat..	Convicted	2 2 0	1 0 0
May 27th	Selling milk 15% deficient in fat	Convicted	3 3 0	1 0 0
May 27th	Selling milk 7% deficient in fat..	Convicted	2 2 0	1 0 0
June 2nd	Selling milk 10% deficient in solids not fat, it also contained 3 parts per 100,000 of moist dirt, some of which consisted of dung	Convicted	1 1 0	1 11 6
July 27th	Selling milk containing 7% of added water	Convicted	—	10 0
Aug. 11th	Selling milk 10% deficient in fat	Convicted	3 3 0	1 15 3
„ 11th	Selling milk 20% deficient in fat	Convicted	2 2 0	1 15 3
Sept. 15th	Selling milk containing 10% of added water	Convicted	3 3 0	2 12 6
.. 9th	Selling milk 12% deficient in fat	Convicted	3 3 0	2 2 0
Nov. 23rd	Selling Cheshire cheese containing only 37.68% fat on the dry cheese, instead of at least 45%	Convicted	1 0 0	nil
Dec. 2nd	Selling sponge cakes containing 5.4 grains per lb. of Boric Acid	Convicted	1 0 0	1 1 0
„ 21st	Selling shredded beef suet containing 21.9% of ground rice...	Dismissed	—	—
„ 21st	Selling shredded beef suet containing 19.2% of ground rice...	Dismissed	—	—
„ 21st	Selling Shredded beef suet containing 22.2% of ground rice	Dismissed	—	—
.. 21st	Selling shredded beef suet containing 19.2% of ground rice...	Dismissed	—	—
			Total	29 1 0 17 7 6

Details of Non-Genuine Samples where proceedings were not instituted.

No. of Sample	Article	Remarks
73	Dripping	Sample contained 10% of water. Warning sent and further sample taken proved genuine
87	Milk	Sample was 4% deficient in fat. Further sample was taken and found genuine.
103	Blackcurrant jam	Sample contained the percentage of foreign ingredient, viz.—15% of apple. No action taken.
24A	Apples	Sample contained 1/50 grain per lb. of Arsenious Oxide. (See remarks on sample numbered 125)
125	Winesap apples	Sample contained 1/60 grain per lb. of Arsenious Oxide. (Warning sent and instructions given that all stocks in hand be thoroughly wiped)
35A	Pears	Sample contained the foreign ingredient as follows, 1/60 grain per lb. of Arsenious Oxide. (Warning sent and instructions given that all stocks in hand be thoroughly wiped)
36A	Pears	Sample contained 1/60 grain per lb. of Arsenious Oxide. (Warning sent and instructions given that all stocks in hand be thoroughly wiped.)
157	Apples	Sample contained 1/60 grain per lb. of Arsenious Oxide. (Warning sent and instructions given that all stocks in hand be thoroughly wiped)
158	Apples	Sample contained 1/28 grain per lb. of Arsenious Oxide. (Warning sent and instructions given that all stocks in hand be thoroughly wiped)
161	Pears	Sample contained 1/28 grain per lb. of Arsenious Oxide. (Warning sent and instructions given that all stocks in hand be thoroughly wiped)
225	Milk	Sample was 5% deficient in fat. Further samples taken proved genuine.
248	Milk	Sample was 6% deficient in fat, and 4% deficient in solids not fat. (Appeal to cow samples were taken and same results were found upon analysis)
4	Milk (Appeal to Cow)	Sample was 9% deficient in fat and 7.5% deficient in solids not fat
8	Milk (Appeal to Cow)	Sample was 20% deficient in solids not fat and 15.3% deficient in fat
9	Milk (Appeal to Cow)	Sample was 25% deficient in fat.
10	Milk (Appeal to Cow)	Sample was 6.9% deficient in solids not fat.
11	Milk (Appeal to Cow)	Sample was 7.8% deficient in solids not fat, and 9% deficient in fat
319	Milk	Sample was 5% deficient in solids not fat. (Analyst stated this to be probably due to sample arriving in a decomposed state)
330	Milk	Sample was 9% deficient in fat. (Warning sent and further sample taken proved genuine)
343	Milk	Sample contained 8% of added water. This case was tried in connection with No. 325 (see list of cases where convictions are recorded)
70A	Milk	Sample was 11% deficient in fat. Formal samples were afterwards taken from this source and also the producer, which proved genuine

Details of Non-Genuine Samples where proceedings were not instituted—*continued.*

No. of Sample	Article	Remarks
18a/g	Milk	Sample was 6% deficient in solids not fat. This case was connected with that No. 17a/g. (See list of cases where convictions are recorded)
382	Milk	Sample was 5.8% deficient in solids not fat. No action was taken as another sample taken at same time and found to be adulterated to a greater extent was dealt with in Court, it being from the same source
545	Rum	Sample had been diluted 2.7% beyond the statutory limit of 35 deg. U.P. Warning sent.
565	Milk	Sample was 10% deficient in fat. (This sample was taken from the retailer, subsequently samples were taken from the producer and also the producer's cows, and in all cases samples proved to be deficient in fat. No further action has been taken)
568	Milk	Sample was 10% deficient in fat. (Remarks on sample 565 apply to this sample)
12	Milk (Appeal to Cow)	Sample was 2.2% deficient in fat.
13	Milk (Appeal to Cow)	Sample was 21% deficient in fat.
15	Milk (Appeal to Cow)	Sample was 1.7% deficient in fat.

Preservatives in Milk, Butter, Margarine, etc.

Of the 383 samples of milk submitted for analysis, none were found to contain preservative.

Of 31 samples of butter, 5 contained Boric Acid in the following amounts:—0.30%, 0.27%, 0.06%, 0.08%, 0.07%.

Of 4 samples of margarine, all contained Boric Acid in the following amounts:—0.34%, 0.48%, 0.44%, 0.47%.

Of 13 samples of jam, none contained preservative.

All lard and margarine samples submitted for analysis were tested for the presence of paraffin, none being found.

Of the 31 samples taken of butter, 23 were imported produce and 8 of home produce, 3 of the former contained preservative, and 2 of the latter, the percentage still being higher in the home product.

The use of preservative in foodstuffs for the year 1926 seems to be distinctly on the decrease, this may be partly due to an intelligent anticipation of the new Regulations which have come into force on the 1st January, 1927, with regard to the use of preservatives.

Registration of Margarine Dealers.

There were no further registrations during the year, 18 visits were paid to registered premises, no breach of the Regulations being found.

Fertilizer and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1906.

Five samples of Sussex ground oats were taken during the year. Three were certified to be genuine and two to be adulterated by the Agricultural Analyst.

Proceedings were instituted at Stoke Court on the 25th February, 1927, in the two cases where adulteration was found to have taken place. The result was—Cases dismissed upon defendant paying costs.

Rag Flock Act.

Six samples of rag flock were procured for analysis during the year, all were certified by the Analyst to come within the standard of cleanliness laid down by the Act. A satisfactory state of cleanliness was found existing at the twelve premises visited.

Other Foods.

Two inspectors devote the whole of their time to the inspection of slaughterhouses, food, the supervision of premises where food is manufactured and stored, and premises such as Greengrocers' Shops, Tripe Cleaning premises, Cold Stores, Wholesale Fruit Stores, Grocers' Shops, premises in which sausages and meat pies are made, etc.

During the year 22,593 visits were paid, compared with 25,244 during the previous year as follows:—

4,640 visits were paid to Slaughterhouses.

5,335 visits were paid to Meat Shops, English and Foreign

1,220 visits were paid to Fish Shops, retail and wholesale.

2,267 visits were paid to Markets, and

9,131 visits were paid to other premises.

Carcases, etc., Examined.

Carcases of Home-Killed animals specially examined, 45,155.

Carcases and Quarters of Frozen and Chilled Meat, etc., 74,271.

Rabbits, English, 16,760 couples.

Rabbits, Imported, 233 cases.

Also a large quantity of Bacon, Cheese, Ham, Eggs, Butter, Fish, Tinned Foods, Fruit and Vegetables.

Condemnations :—

Home-killed Beef	...	...	...	...	...	112,409 lbs.
Mutton	...	...	...	...	...	2,877 "
Pork	...	...	...	...	...	4,071 "
Veal	...	...	...	...	...	1,197 "
Beef (Imported)	...	...	...	...	...	2,018 "
Mutton (Imported)	...	...	...	...	...	1,262 "
Offals	...	...	...	...	...	66,344 "
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	2,033 "
Shell Fish	...	...	...	...	...	276 "
Tinned Foods	...	...	...	...	...	865 "
Fruit—Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	24,866 "
Rabbits	...	...	...	...	...	419 "
Eggs (Imported)	...	...	...	...	...	191½ "
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	328 "
Tripe	...	...	...	...	...	311½ "
						<hr/>
					Total ...	219,468 "

or 97 Tons, 19 Cwts., 2 Qrs. 4 lbs.

Number of surrenders	...	...	...	...	1,178
Number of seizures	...	...	...	...	1

Of the 159 Bovine Carcasses condemned—

73 or 45.91% were affected with Tuberculosis, and 86 or 54.09% with other diseases.

Offal seized, 20 lbs.

The whole of the meat found to be unfit for human consumption is now dealt with at the Waste Eliminator Plant at Hanley.

Prosecutions under the Public Health Act.

	Offence Committed	Penalty
No. 1 Case	Being in possession of the lungs of a Cow	Warned by letter from the Town Clerk

Prosecutions under Sale of Foods Order, 1921.

	Offence Committed	Penalty		
No. 1 Case	For exposing Meat for sale unlabelled	Fined	... 1 0 0	£ s. d.
No. 2 Case	For exposing Meat for sale unlabelled	Fined	... 1 0 0	
No. 3 Case	For exposing imported eggs for sale, labelled new laid	Fined	... 2 2 0	
		Special Costs	1 3 6	
No. 4 Case	For exposing imported aggs for sale, labelled new laid	Fined	... 2 2 0	
		Special Costs	1 3 6	
No. 5 Case	For exposing imported eggs for sale, labelled new laid	Fined	... 2 2 0	
		Special Costs	1 1 0	

Slaughterhouses.

There are 60 slaughterhouses in the City (including the Corporation Abattoirs).

	Total	Registered	Licensed	Vacant
Tunstall and Goldenhill	... 4	3	1	—
Burslem	... 9	7	2	—
Hanley	... 12	9	3	—
Stoke and Hanford	... 5	2	3	—
Fenton	... 8	8	—	—
Longton, Meir & Rough Close	12	10	2	—
Smallthorne	... 2	—	2	—
Bucknall	... 5	1	4	—
Milton, Norton-in-the-Moors and Packmoor	... 3	2	1	—
	—	—	—	—
	60	42	18	—

			In January 1926	In December 1926
Registered	...	...	46	42
Licensed	...	...	19	18
			—	—
Total	...		65	60

96 Personal Notices were served throughout the year for the lime-washing of slaughterhouses, lairs, etc., and also for the replacing of worn-out garbage vessels. In every case the notices were complied with.

The private slaughterhouses are scattered throughout the whole of the City, and hours of slaughter have to be notified under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, but owing to the large area it is impossible to carry out satisfactorily the duties of Meat Inspection.

Several private slaughterhouses have carried out sanitary improvements but many others are very unsatisfactory and unfit to be used as such.

ICE CREAM SHOPS. During the year 111 visits have been made to these premises. The defects found and dealt with were 18.

Canal Boats.

During the year 1,570 Canal Boats have been inspected in this district. They were found to be clean, well ventilated, and in a good state of repair. Of these 694 were Individual Boats, and 18 were Motor Boats.

The accommodation provided on these 1,570 canal boats was as follows:—

4,765 persons, being an average of 3.03 per boat. The number of persons in occupation was:—4,565, viz. : males, 1,910; females, 1,251; children, 1,404; being 41.8 per cent. males; 27.4 per cent. females; 30.7 per cent. children; or an average of 2.9 persons in occupation per boat; but, if two children are counted as one adult, it reduces the average in occupation to 2.46.

Of the 1,404 children on board, there were 754 or 16.5 per cent. over 5 years and therefore of school age, 650 or 14.2 per cent. were under 5 years of age, 769 or 16.8 per cent. were boys, and 635 or 13.9 per cent. were girls.

These canal boats were registered to carry the following number of persons:—

2 boats were registered to carry 6 persons.

5	„	„	„	5	„
205	„	„	„	4	„
9	„	„	„	$3\frac{2}{3}$	„
1290	„	„	„	3	„
2	„	„	„	$2\frac{1}{2}$	„
57 not registered or void.					

188 boats had a fore cabin, being 11.9 per cent of the boats inspected. They were registered as follows:—

181	7	boats were registered to carry 2 persons
	„	„ „ 1 person
	188	

In 107 cases the captains were also the owners of the boats, and 17 boats inspected had women captains. In 104 cases a pair of canal boats were worked by one family (in some cases with assistance).

Infringement of Acts and Regulations.

Infringement of Acts and Regulations:—

(a) Registration	...	...	...	...	...	0
(b) Notification of change of master	...	...	...	...	...	0
(c) Certificates	...	...	...	...	...	11
(d) Marking	...	...	...	...	...	4
(e) Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	5
(f) Separation of sexes	...	...	...	...	...	2
(g) Cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	0
(h) Ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	0
(i) Painting	...	...	...	...	...	3
(j) Provision of water vessel	...	...	...	...	...	7
(k) Removal of bilge water	...	...	...	...	...	3
(l) Notification of infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	0
(m) Admittance of Inspector	...	...	...	...	...	0
						—
						35

No legal proceedings were taken under the Canal Boats Acts or Regulations during this period.

The usual blue notices were served in 33 cases for 35 infringements, of these 32 have been returned, duly signed, signifying that the said infringements had been rectified.

There were no cases of infectious disease met with on a canal boat during 1926.

There are at present on the register (according to the revised list)—

- (a) 562 boats known to be working ;
- (b) 330 boats that are cancelled, broken up or cannot be traced.

Seven canal boats were registered during the past year, one of these being a motor-propelled canal boat.

New canal boats	...	...	...	...	...	3
Change of ownership	...	...	...	...	...	4
						7

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following is a list of the diseases which at present have to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health:—Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Typhoid Fever (Enteric and Paratyphoid Fever), Puerperal Fever, Puerperal Pyrexia, Cholera, Erysipelas, Smallpox, Typhus Fever, Relapsing Fever, Continued Fever, Plague, Cerebro-spinal Fever, Acute Poliomyelitis, Pulmonary Tuberculosis, other forms of Tuberculosis, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Malaria, Dysentery, Trench Fever, Acute Primary Pneumonia, Acute Influenzal Pneumonia, Acute Encephalitis Lethargica, Acute Polio-Encephalitis, Chicken-pox, and Pemphigus Neonatorum.

TABLE 6.—Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1926.

*This Disease was only made notifiable on 1st October, 1926.

Infectious Diseases Hospital, Bucknall	...	...	Total Available Beds,	264.
Stanfield Sanatorium, Burslem	...	...	",	89.
North Staffs. Joint Smallpox Hospital	...	...	",	54.

TABLE 7, showing the numbers of cases and deaths from Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric Fever since 1910.

	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Enteric Fever	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1910	2005	66	637	83	122	30
1911	1687	63	819	90	139	26
1912	696	29	514	60	139	27
1913	266	4	634	95	103	23
1914	223	1	528	79	86	18
1915	874	28	932	104	48	12
1916	722	24	865	108	31	6
1917	387	14	622	66	20	4
1918	260	8	508	60	21	5
1919	807	31	466	29	10	3
1920	1060	40	342	21	11	2
1921	651	14	311	20	27	7
1922	875	23	302	16	23	10
1923	1373	22	221	10	20	3
1924	1886	28	229	10	4	3
1925	996	19	288	19	9	1
1926	558	9	260	22	19	5

SCARLET FEVER.

Number of cases notified	...	...	...	558
Number of deaths	...	...	...	9
Case fatality per cent.	...	...	...	1.6
Number of cases removed to hospitals	...	...	506	
Percentage of cases removed	...	...	90.7	

The attack rate for the City during the year was 2.02 per 1,000 of the population.

Size of House	One Family	Two Families	Three Families	Total Notified	Over two persons per room	Dead
1 Room	...	—	—	—	—	—
2 Rooms	...	4	1	5	3	—
3 Rooms	...	23	1	25	1	—
4 Rooms	...	150	69	244	69	5
5 Rooms	...	114	33	161	21	1
6 Rooms	...	76	33	111	2	3
In Institution	...	—	—	12	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	367	137	42	558	96
						9

Type of house			Percentage of total houses (Census)	Percentage of Scarlet Fever Cases notified
1—3 Rooms	...	...	8.9	5.7
4—5 Rooms	...	...	74.9	74.2
6 and over	...	...	16.2	20.1

The attack rates per 1,000 of the population for the various districts were as follows:—Tunstall, 3.65; Burslem, 2.6; Hanley 1.5; Stoke, 1.93; Fenton, 1.4; Longton 1.46; Smallthorne, Bucknall, Norton, etc., 2.26. The disease was most prevalent in Tunstall and Smallthorne, Bucknall, Norton, etc.

The percentage of removals to the Hospital was 90.7, as compared with 88.9 for the previous year.

The mortality rate in the district during 1926 was 0.03. The mortality rate for the disease in England and Wales was 0.02 per 1,000 of the population, and in the 105 large towns 0.02 per 1,000.

All cases are promptly visited on notification, and removal to Hospital urged where there are no means of isolating the patients. Disinfection is carried out promptly and thoroughly. The head teachers of the elementary schools are advised of the occurrence of Scarlet Fever among the scholars, or in the families of the scholars, and such scholars are excluded from school until the expiration of the time advised in the memorandum of the Local Government Board and the Board of Education. Every case is kept under supervision until disinfection is completed. It is understood that all information transmitted from this Department is promptly sent on to the School Medical Officer. Generally in dealing with infectious disease, there is close co-operation between the School Medical Department and the Health Department. Leaflets containing instruction for preventing the spread of the disease, and extracts from the Acts of Parliament relating to infectious diseases, are left at each infected house.

The case fatality for the year was 1.6 per cent, compared with 1.9 in 1925.

Diphtheria.

Number of cases notified...	...	...	...	260
Number of deaths...	...	...	...	22
Case fatality per cent.	...	...	...	8.5
Number of cases removed to hospital			...	228
Percentage of cases removed	...	...	...	87.69

The attack rate for the City was 0.95 per 1,000 of the population.

The number of cases of Diphtheria notified this year was less than last year but greater than the year before. Previously there had been a steady decrease in the number of cases notified. With the exception of 1924, when there was a slight increase on 1923.

Size of House	One Family	Two Families	Three Families	Total notified	Over two Persons per room		Dead
					Persons	Dead	
1 Room	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 Rooms	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 Rooms	...	4	—	—	4	1	1
4 Rooms	...	78	33	14	125	26	7
5 Rooms	...	68	10	2	80	2	8
6 Rooms	...	35	8	3	46	—	6
In Institutions	...	—	—	—	5	—	—
		—	—	—	—	—	—
	185	51	19	260	29	22	

Type of house	Percentage of total houses	Percentage of Diphtheria Cases notified
1—3 Rooms	...	8.9
4—5 Rooms	...	74.9
6 and over	...	16.2

The attack rates per 1,000 of the population for the various districts were as follows:—Tunstall, 1.76; Burslem, 0.81; Hanley, 0.68; Stoke, 1.05; Fenton, 0.43; Longton, 0.95; Smallthorne, Norton, Bucknall, etc., 1.29. The disease was most prevalent at Tunstall and Fenton.

The death rate from Diphtheria in the City was 0.08 compared to 0.10 in the 105 large towns, and 0.07 in England and Wales.

Two schools were closed owing to the presence of undetected diphtheric carriers in these schools.

All cases are promptly visited on notification, and removal to hospital carried out where isolation is not up to a fair standard, and also in cases of serious illness or where tracheotomy is required. The City provides means for carrying out promptly bacteriological examinations. Arrangements have been made for a gratuitous supply of antitoxin at any time day or night, to medical men on demand, and a fee is paid for its use, both for purposes of treatment and prevention. Disinfection is carried out promptly and thoroughly. The head teachers of schools are kept regularly informed of the occurrence of cases among the school children and contacts, and they are dealt with according to the Memorandum of the Local Government Board and the Board of Education. The head teachers are informed in all cases as to the date on which patients and contacts may return to school. Leaflets containing instructions for preventing the spread of the disease, and extracts from the Acts of Parliament relating to infectious diseases, are left with the house-holder in each case.

Bacteriological examination of swabs from suspected cases is made free of charge to medical men. In 1926, 738 examinations were made, with a positive result in 104 cases; in 1925, 691 examinations were made, with positive results in 99 cases.

During the year 47 patients were reported as having been injected with antixin at their homes by their medical attendants. The average amount of serum used in each case was 5,872 units.

The cost to the Corporation was £7 5s., paid to medical men for injecting serum, and £83 2s. 11d. paid to chemists for the supply of the serum.

Enteric Fever.

Number of cases notified...	...	...	...	19
Number of deaths...	...	...	...	5
Case fatality per cent.	...	...	...	25.3
Number of cases removed to hospitals		...	...	17
Percentage of cases removed	...	...	...	89.5

The attack rate for the City was 0.07 per 1,000 of the population.

Five of the nineteen cases notified in 1926 died. Two were removed to the North Stafford Infirmary, and fifteen to Bucknall, and two were nursed at home.

The death rate from Enteric Fever in the 105 large towns during the year 1926 was 0.01 per 1,000. In England and Wales, 0.01. In Stoke-on-Trent it was 0.02.

Bacteriological examinations were made by the Corporation Bacteriologist in 21 instances, with 2 positive results. In 1925, 28 examinations were made, with 2 positive results.

In the month of July eight cases of Enteric Fever were notified from a particular area in the City and it was found that in each case watercress had been purchased from a hawker who had obtained the cress from streams situated outside the City. The Medical Officer of Health of the District was at once communicated with and a notification was sent to the Ministry of Health who at once sent down one of their Medical Officers to investigate. The sale of water-cress by the hawker was stopped and the source of supply of water-cress investigated. Advertisements were also inserted in the newspapers advising the public of the danger. No further cases occurred.

Smallpox.

Three cases of Smallpox were notified in the area during the year. On Saturday, January 16th a notification was received intimating that a boy aged 15 was suffering from Chicken Pox. On being visited it was found that the disease was a moderately severe attack of Smallpox. A sister of the boy aged 29 was also examined, and she too was found to be suffering from Smallpox. Both cases were removed to the Bagnall Isolation Hospital the same day. It was found that the inmates of this

house had been on a visit to Bolsover, near Chesterfield, Derbyshire, from December 24th to 28th. The Medical Officer of Health at Bolsover was communicated with and on enquiry he found that the inmates of the house at Bolsover were also suffering from Smallpox.

All contacts were advised to be vaccinated, and the great majority were done, and the medical men of the district were notified of the occurrence of the cases. Daily observation was kept in respect of the contacts, and no further cases occurred.

In the month of November a notification was received from the Stoke Workhouse that one of the inmates of the Mental Ward was suffering from Smallpox. The source of infection was not ascertained, all precautions were taken at the Institution to prevent the spread of the disease and no further case occurred. It is probable that the infection was carried in the clothes of an attendant's son who had recently returned from China where he had had an attack of Smallpox.

Erysipelas.

There were 138 cases notified during the year, with 6 deaths. In 1925, 165 cases were notified with 17 deaths. No cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital but some to the Guardians' Institution.

Enquiries are made into these cases and the sanitary condition of the houses attended to.

Cerebro Spinal Fever.

One case was notified as Cerebro Spinal Fever during the year, and died. One case was certified as having died from this disease but was not notified.

No sources of infection could be traced.

Disinfection was carried out, the sanitary condition of the houses attended to, and contact children excluded from school for two weeks.

Acute Encephalitis Lethargica and Acute Polio-Encephalitis.

Ten cases of Acute Encephalitis Lethargica were notified during the year, five of them died. One of those who died was certified as having died from another cause.

TABLE OF CASES.

No.	Sex	Age	Occupation (if any)	District	Results
1	Male	49 yrs.	Painter	Burslem	Patient recovered
2	Male	16 ,,	—	Stoke	Patient in fair health not strong mentally
3	Female	3 ,,	At home	Burslem	Patient died
4	Male	12 ,,	At School	Stoke	Patient ill in bed
5	Male	4 ,,	At home	Tunstall	Patient died
6	Female	10/12,,	At home	Tunstall	Patient died
7	Female	27 ,,	Tile dipper	Tunstall	Patient died
8	Male	16 ,,	At home	Longton	Patient still in Buck- nall Hospital
9	Female	19 ,,	Transfer- rer	Stoke	Patient ill in bed
10	Male	36 ,,	Labourer	Longton	Patient died

Malaria, Dysentery and Trench Fever.

The number of cases of these diseases notified were as follows:—
Malaria, 0 ; Dysentery, 1 ; Trench Fever, 0.

The one case of dysentery occurred in a man who had contracted it while abroad.

Influenza, Pneumonia and Broncho Pneumonia.

The number of cases notified during the year was:—Influenza Pneumonia, 80, and Pneumonia and Broncho Pneumonia, 1075. The number of deaths was:—Influenza, 60, being equal to a rate of 0.22 per 1,000 of population ; and Pneumonia and Broncho Pneumonia 278, being equal to a rate of 1.01 per 1,000 of the population.

These diseases were less prevalent than in 1925.

Enquiry into Pneumonia Cases Notified.

Size of House	One Family	Two Families	Three Families	Total notified	Over two persons per room
1 Room	...	I	—	—	I
2 Rooms	...	II	I	—	2
3 Rooms	...	81	2	—	83
4 Rooms	...	260	202	54	516
5 Rooms	...	188	110	19	317
6 Rooms	...	79	36	5	120
In Institutions	...	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	620	351	78	1155
					256

Type of house	Percentage of total houses			Percentage of Pneumonia cases notified
1—3 Rooms	8.9	9.1
4—5 Rooms	74.9	79.4
6 and over	16.2	11.5

Disinfection.

Disinfection is carried out at one Central Station where there are Two Washington-Lyons Steam Disinfectors with a constant supply of steam from the adjoining destructor works. There are employed in this work four men with two motor vans.

The method of disinfection adopted is as follows:—All bedding, clothing, etc., which has been exposed to infection is removed for disinfection at the Station after all cases of infectious disease (including Tuberculosis). The surfaces of infected rooms are sprayed with a solution of Izal at a strength of 1 in 20, or fumigated by means of formalin lamps.

The total number of houses disinfected during the year was 1318, and the number of rooms in such houses, 1,485. Two schools and six cells were sprayed. The number of articles passed through the Disinfector totalled 12,460. 84 books were disinfected.

Respiratory Diseases.

During the year there were 770 deaths from Respiratory Diseases, giving a death rate of 2.79 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 3.31 for the year 1925.

The distribution of these deaths is shown in the following table:—

Name of District	No. of Deaths from Bronchitis	No. of Deaths from Pneumonia	No. of Deaths from Fibroid Phthisis	No. of Deaths from Pleurisy	No. of Deaths from other Respiratory Diseases	Total	Rate per 1000
TUNSTALL ...	46	38	—	2	2	88	3.08
BURSLEM ...	88	66	2	2	4	162	3.70
HANLEY ...	101	80	—	6	10	197	2.82
STOKE ...	54	20	—	3	4	81	2.00
FENTON ...	29	14	—	—	3	46	1.67
LONGTON ...	102	25	—	2	10	139	3.17
SMALLTHORNE, NORTON, BUCKNALL, etc.	16	35	—	—	6	57	2.33
WHOLE CITY ...	436	278	2	15	39	770	2.79

The death rate from Bronchitis in the City was 1.58 per 1,000 of the population. There were 436 deaths from this disease, as against 496 last year. The rate for 1925 was 1.78.

The death rate from Pneumonia was 1.01 per 1,000 of the population. The rate for 1925 was 1.36.

Alcoholism.

Alcoholism caused 17 deaths during 1926. 15 of these were certified as due to Cirrhosis of the Liver. In 1925 there were 17 deaths due to Alcoholism.

Lead Poisoning.

This is an affection which is associated with pottery manufacture. Through careful supervision, and under the Special Rules of the Home Office, lead poisoning has diminished. There were increases in the number of cases in 1910 and 1911, but the numbers diminished in 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917 and 1918. The years 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922 and 1924 show increases, 1925 showed a decrease, but in 1926 there was a decrease as there were 4 less than in 1925.

According to the Report of the Departmental Committee there were engaged in 1907, as lead workers under the Earthenware and China Rules in North Staffordshire, 5,299 persons (3,371 males and 1,928 females). In 1906 there were 85 cases of lead poisoning ; in 1907, 82 cases ; in 1908, 91 cases ; in 1909, 49 cases ; in 1910, 63 cases ; in 1911, 78 cases ; in 1912, 74 cases ; in 1913, 55 cases ; in 1914, 23 cases ; in 1915, 22 cases ; in 1916, 21 cases ; in 1917, 16 cases ; in 1918, 8 cases, in 1919, 25 cases ; in 1920, 32 cases ; in 1921, 34 cases ; in 1922, 48 cases ; in 1923, 46 cases ; in 1924, 50, in 1925, 42, and in 1926, 38.

Deaths from Lead Poisoning with Occupations:—

Potters' Placers	...	...	...	...	...	3
Potters' Dippers	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dippers' Assistant	...	...	...	...	...	1
Aerographer	...	...	...	...	...	1
Colour Duster	...	...	...	...	...	1
						—
						12

In 1918 there was one death only attributed to Lead Poisoning ; in 1919 there were 7 ; in 1920, 15 ; in 1921, 11 ; in 1922, 13, in 1923, 10, in 1924, 17, and in 1925, 6.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the register at the 31st December, 1926 was as follows:—

		Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...		866	556	1422
Non-Pulmonary ...	...	151	128	279
Total	...	1017	684	1701

The following table shows the number of cases of Tuberculosis notified, and the number of deaths since 1912:—

PULMONARY.			NON-PULMONARY.		
	Notified Cases	Deaths		Notified Cases	Deaths
1912 ...	730	300	—	—	120
1913 ...	815	304	381	—	129
1914 ...	675	308	201	—	112
1915 ...	686	293	126	—	94
1916 ...	580	326	142	—	123
1917 ...	501	330	100	—	125
1918 ...	606	325	211	—	108
1919 ...	742	283	100	—	78
1920 ...	587	260	151	—	86
1921 ...	491	292	96	—	74
1922 ...	452	294	95	—	67
1923 ...	390	267	124	—	65
1924 ...	354	254	108	—	68
1925 ...	451	275	106	—	92
1926 ...	406	275	111	—	86

Table showing numbers of cases of Tuberculosis notified at various ages during 1926, together with the number of deaths:—

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	—	1	6	3	2	1	10	4
1 ...	11	13	13	13	10	6	14	13
5 ...	11	16	11	11	3	—	4	4
10 ...	9	7	12	11	2	5	1	4
15 ...	24	26	7	4	7	21	6	3
20 ...	27	22	3	2	10	23	1	2
25 ...	27	42	4	4	21	20	3	4
35 ...	41	23	2	2	37	8	1	2
45 ...	45	25	1	2	46	13	4	1
55 ...	20	10	—	—	26	8	2	1
65 and upwards	4	2	—	—	5	1	1	1
Totals ...	219	187	59	52	169	106	47	39

Phthisis Pulmonalis.

Four hundred and six cases were notified in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations.

The cases and deaths were distributed as follows:—

				Number notified	Number of deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 of population
Tunstall	...	...	...	41	33	1.15
Burslem	...	...	...	75	57	1.30
Hanley	...	...	...	108	72	1.03
Stoke	...	...	...	49	31	0.77
Fenton	...	...	...	50	25	0.91
Longton	...	...	...	67	45	1.03
Smallthorne, Norton, Bucknall, &c.	...	...	...	16	12	0.56

The following Tables shows the period which elapsed between the Notification of Phthisis and the death in the 275 cases which died during the year:—

Dead when notified	...	...	...	...	...	22
Died within 1 week of notification	...	...	...	...	...	21
Died from 1 week to 1 month of notification	...	...	...	...	...	23
Died from 1 month to 2 months of notification	...	...	...	...	...	19
Died from 2 months to 3 months of notification	...	...	...	...	...	8
Died from 3 months to 4 months of notification	...	...	...	...	...	17
Died from 4 months to 5 months of notification	...	...	...	...	...	14
Died from 5 months to 6 months of notification	...	...	...	...	...	10
Died from 6 months to 12 months of notification	...	...	...	...	...	33
Over 12 months	...	...	...	...	...	72
Not notified	...	...	...	...	...	36
						275

Out of the 275 deaths from Phthisis during the year, 36 had not been notified, a percentage of 13.1. There were 86 deaths from other forms of Tuberculosis, and 44 of these had not been notified, a percentage of 51.2.

The 275 deaths is equal to a death rate of 1.00 per 1,000; in 1925 there were 275 deaths and a death rate of 0.99 per 1,000. In England and Wales, in 1924 the death rate was 0.841 per 1,000.

The average death rate from Phthisis for Stoke-on-Trent for 1912-14 was 1.27 per 1,000 of the population; for 1915 it was 1.30 per 1,000; for 1916, 1.48; 1917, 1.53; 1918, 1.56; 1919, 1.18; 1920, 1.04; 1921, 1.18; 1922, 1.06; 1923, 0.96; 1924, 0.91; 1925, 0.99, and 1926, 1.00.

The average death rate from Phthisis for England and Wales for 1912—1914 was 1.03 per 1,000 of the population; for 1915 it was 1.16 per 1,000; for 1916, 1.18; 1917, 1.25; 1918, 1.34; 1919, 0.99; 1920, 0.89; 1921, 0.88; 1922, 0.88; 1923, 0.836, 1924, 0.841, 1925, 0.833.

Sixty-one deaths occurred in persons aged 15 to 25, and 208 in persons between the ages of 25 and 65 years.

Eight hundred and seven Bacteriological Examinations were made in 1926 and tubercle bacilli were found in 124 of the specimens submitted.

During the year, 5,482 visits were paid by the Tuberculosis Nurses. The number of visits paid by the Tuberculosis Officers was 426.

There were 86 deaths in the year from forms of Tuberculosis other than Phthisis, equal to a rate of 0.31 per 1,000 of the population. In 1925, the rate for England and Wales was 0.205.

The total death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis, including Phthisis was 1.31 per 1,000. In 1925 the rate for England and Wales was 1.038 per 1,000 of the population.

Other Forms of Tuberculosis.

There were 111 cases notified of other forms of Tuberculosis, and 86 deaths, giving a rate of 0.31 per 1,000 of the population. Of these deaths, 14 occurred in children under one year of age, and 27 among children between one year and five years.

Table showing the number of cases notified as suffering from other forms of Tuberculosis during 1926.

	Under 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	Over 65	Totals
Tabes Mesenterica ...	6	8	15	7	2	1	—	39
Tubercular Meningitis ..	1	7	2	3	—	—	—	13
Glands	1	3	8	4	2	—	—	18
Osseous	1	7	19	2	7	1	—	37
Skin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
General... ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2
Other Forms	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
 Totals	9	26	45	16	12	3	—	111

The Tuberculosis Dispensary was opened in Stoke in 1913 ; it consists of Waiting, Consulting and Examination Rooms, with a Laboratory.

The work at the Tuberculosis Dispensary continues as in previous years. The main ideas are to get the patients as early as possible after infection and to give opportunities to every case for Treatment and Education.

Apart from the patients themselves every effort is made to keep the contacts in view but it is extremely difficult to get them to attend for examination when they do not feel ill.

There is again improvement in the co-operation of the private practitioner with the Dispensary Staff and a reply is sent to every doctor who wishes it.

The use of X-rays for diagnosis purposes has been greatly extended and has been of great service to the doctors in suggesting the correct treatment.

With regard to treatment, the operation of Artificial Pneumothorax has been used successfully at Stanfield in suitable cases, and various graduated exercises and work are still prescribed for the patients as part of their treatment. Lectures are given and a new booklet giving hints to patients how to carry on on their return home is in course of preparation.

During the year more beds for City cases have been opened at Cheshire Joint Sanatorium. Slightly fewer cases were treated at Stanfield during the year as there is now no fixed period of treatment and each case is treated on its merits.

A Branch Dispensary at Longton was opened in 1919, the number of attendances at this Dispensary during the year 1926 was 708.

During the year there were 4,638 attendances at the Stoke Dispensary, making a total of 5,346 for both Stoke and Longton.

Number of new patients dealt with :—

				Males	Females	Total
Adults Insured	...	...	...	175	104	279
Adults Non-Insured	...	...	...	24	71	95
Children	...	...	...	108	117	225
				—	—	—
				307	292	599

The foregoing number was from the districts as follows:—

Tunstall	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Burslem	...	...	...	...	...	...	101
Hanley	...	...	...	...	...	...	142
Stoke	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Fenton	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
Longton	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
Smallthorne, Norton, Bucknall, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	60

AFTER-CARE.

A Voluntary After-Care Committee has been at work in the City for several years. Milk and clothing have been supplied and assistance given in obtaining employment.

SURGICAL TUBERCULOSIS.

The Corporation have an arrangement with the North Stafford Cripples' Aid Society for the treatment of cases of Surgical Tuberculosis in children at their Institution in the City. Seven beds are reserved for Stoke-on-Trent cases.

The Medical Officer of the Institution is the Surgical Tuberculosis Officer of the Corporation. During the year an average of 9.87 patients were in daily residence. Patients after discharge from the Institution are attended to at their houses by Nurses from the Institution.

There are in the City at the present time 94 known active cases of non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 31 quiescent cases under the age of 16 years; and 33 active cases and 18 quiescent cases 16 years and over. Of these 23 are in Institutions.

Dr. Mitchell Smith, Surgical Tuberculosis Officer, reports as follows—

“ During the year 1925-26, 164 cases of Surgical Tuberculosis in children of the City of Stoke-on-Trent were under treatment at the Orthopaedic Hospital, Hartshill.”

Thirty-eight of these cases were treated as In-Patients for a longer or shorter period according to their necessities. Fifteen have been discharged as cured.”

CLASSIFICATION OF CASES.

Spines	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Hips	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Knees	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Ankles	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Elbows	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fingers and Wrist	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
							—
						Total	164

STANFIELD SANATORIUM.

This Sanatorium consists of four ward blocks and 12 double shelters with accommodation for 89 patients. One block is used for male adults and another for children, both of these blocks are provided with sleeping verandahs and three double shelters. The new block of 24 beds was opened in October, 1922, and is at present used for females, verandahs were added to this block during the year. The fourth block of 18 beds has no verandah and is used for the treatment of children.

ADMISSION TO STANFIELD SANATORIUM:—

Males, 119; Females, 104; Children, 146; Total, 369.

CONDITION ON DISCHARGE:—

Improved, 274; Stationery, 50; Worse, 14; Deaths, 29; Total, 367.

Four selected cases were sent to other Sanatoria through the Ministry of Health's Scheme for Ex-Service men, in connection with the Ministry of Pensions, for a course of Vocational Training combined with treatment, 4 to Papworth Hall by the Ministry of Pensions, and 2 to other Sanatoria.

CHESHIRE JOINT SANATORIA.

This Sanatorium consists of 240 beds, the number allocated to the City being 48. The Institution was opened in November, 1923, for the reception of patients. The beds have been kept fully occupied. The patients sent to this Institution are mainly cases in the early stages of the disease.

ADMISSIONS TO CHESHIRE JOINT SANATORIUM:—

Males, 36 ; Females, 37 ; Total, 73.

CONDITION OF PATIENTS ON DISCHARGE:—

Improved, 39 ; Stationery, 11 ; Worse, 4 ; Deaths, 4 ; Total, 58.

PROVISION OF SLEEPING SHELTERS FOR CONSUMPTION.

Sleeping shelters are provided by the Corporation for the use of consumptive patients at their own homes where the surroundings are suitable. The construction of these shelters provides occupation for male patients at Stanfield.

Venereal Diseases.

A Clinic was established at the North Staffordshire Infirmary, and work was commenced there on November 1st, 1918. The clinics are held four times weekly, twice for men, and twice for women. The total cost to the City was £1,317 13s. for the year 1926, 75 per cent. will be refunded by the Ministry of Health. Two Medical men are in attendance at each clinic. The hours of clinics are:—

For men:—Monday, 4 to 6 p.m.

Friday, 5 to 7 p.m.

For women:—Wednesday, 5 to 7 p.m.

Saturday, 12 noon to 2 p.m.

More clinics are required, also arrangements for interval treatment. The Council are now dealing with this question and have decided to set up another centre. When completed there will be ample facilities for full treatment. A building is at present in course of erection and a scheme approved by the Ministry of Health.

For the purposes of pathological work, arrangements have been made with Professor Topley of the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

The following is the return as to the work done at the clinics during the year.

(1) Total number of persons dealt with during the year at, or in connection with the Out-Patient clinic and suffering from:—

	Number of persons who were under treatment or observation on Jan. 1st, 1926	Number of persons dealt with during the year for the first time	TOTAL
(a) Syphilis	435	229	664
(b) Soft Chancre	8	1	9
(c) Gonnorrhœa	229	236	465
(d) Conditions other than Venereal ...	27	77	104
TOTAL	699	543	1242

The number of person dealt with for the first time in 1926 was more than in 1925.

(2) Total attendances of all patients during the year at the Out-patient Clinic: City, 5,550 ; Staffs. County, 2,152 ; and outside the district other than the County, 154.

(3) Aggregate number of "In-patient days" of treatment during the year: City, 150 ; Staffs County, 144.

Thirteen medical men in the City are registered for the free supply of Salvarsan and its substitutes. These drugs are supplied on application by the medical practitioner to the Senior Medical Officer of the clinic at the North Staffs. Infirmary.

Four medical men have been supplied with Salvarsan substitutes. The number of doses of Novarsenobillon being 514, the doses varying in strength from .15 grammes to .9 grammes. 256 doses of Neokharsivan were supplied, varying from .30 grammes to 0.9 grammes in strength, and of Stabilarsan 60 doses, varying from .3 grammes to .6 grammes.

No action has been taken in the district under the Venereal Diseases Act, 1917.

As in previous years a propaganda campaign was again undertaken in conjunction with the National Association for Combating Venereal Diseases.

Statement of Vaccination for the year ending June 30th, 1926.

(Furnished by the Vaccination Officers.)

District	Births	Successfully Vaccinated	Insusceptible	Had Smallpox	Died Unvaccinated	Postponed by Medical Authority	Certs. of Exemption. (Conscientious objection)	Removals Certified	Removals not found and not accounted for	Not dealt with for various reasons
TUNSTALL ...	1008	362	4	—	62	4	553	2	9	12
BURSLEM ...	1018	404	—	—	70	1	527	3	7	6
HANLEY ...	1588	644	4	—	104	52	716	4	31	33
STOKE ...	911	400	2	—	65	8	406	7	20	3
FENTON ...	740	374	4	—	40	8	296	5	7	6
LONGTON ...	979	630	—	—	65	41	231	3	8	1
CITY ...	6244	2814	14	—	406	114	2729	24	82	61

Of the total births only 42 per cent were vaccinated during the year.

No revaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Midwives' Acts, 1902 and 1918.

One hundred and two midwives notified their intention to practice in the City of Stoke-on-Trent area during the year 1926 ; six of these reside outside the City, and most of their work is done in the surrounding districts.

Seventy of the midwives practising in the area possess the certificate of the Central Midwives' Board, and 2 have the certificate of the London Obstetrical Society. In addition, 21 of the C.M.B. midwives are fully trained nurses, and 3 have had fever-nursing training.

During the year 2 bona-fide midwives ceased to practice ; one midwife gave up work on marriage, 6 left the district.

There are now only 6 midwives practising in the area who are unable to keep satisfactory records of pulse and temperature.

Whilst there is a steady improvement in the training of the midwives of the district, it is unfortunate that so many of them have to live in houses where there is no bath-room, as this increases the difficulty of keeping up a high standard of personal and domestic cleanliness.

In addition to the 495 routine inspections, 73 special visits to midwives were made in relation to the following:—

Still birth enquiries	...	...	...	...	3
Puerperal Fever and rise of temperature				...	36
Ophthalmia	...	...	...	...	4
Ante-natal Clinic cases	...	...	...	...	10
Medical Aid Forms	...	...	...	...	8
Pemphigus Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	12

In connection with the Stoke-on-Trent and District Midwives' Association, eight lectures were given to the midwives of the district.

The subjects of the lectures were as follows:—

- Pemphigus Neonatorum.
- The Management of Normal Labour.
- The Third Stage of Labour.
- Ophthalmia Neonatorum.
- Puerperal Sepsis.
- Ante-natal Care.
- Placenta Praevia.
- The Midwives' share in the reduction of the maternal and Infant Death Rate.

The last two lectures were given by the Lady Medical Officer, who is President of the Association.

During 1926 there were received from the Midwives:—

- 1,242 Records for calling in Medical Aid.
- 147 Ophthalmia Notifications.
- 17 Notifications of death of new born children.
- 4 Notifications of death of the mother.
- 130 Still Births on Special Forms.
- 40 Notifications *re* failure to breast-feed.

The 1,242 records of calling in Medical Aid were divided as follows:—

- 24 for abnormality or complication during pregnancy.
- 835 for abnormality or complication during labour.
- 78 for abnormality or complication during lying-in period.
- 305 for abnormality or complication in the case of the child.

Under the Midwives' Act, 1918, claims were made by Doctors for the payment of fees in 727 cases, out of 1,242 instances in which medical aid was called in. The 727 claims amounted to £1,095 1s. 6d. compared to £619 12s. 6d. in the year 1925.

Infantile Mortality.

The total number of deaths of infants under the age of one year was 607, being equal to an infantile mortality rate of 101 per 1,000 births. In 1925 the rate was 106.

In 1926 there were four large towns with higher rates than Stoke-on-Trent.

During the ten years, 1914-1923 the infantile mortality rate for the City averaged 113. During 1924, 1925 and 1926 the rates for the districts were:—

		1924	1925	1926
Tunstall ...	...	97	135	116
Burslem ...	...	112	118	120
Hanley ...	...	101	106	88
Stoke ...	...	75	83	80
Fenton ...	...	92	82	120
Longton ...	...	119	115	100
Smallthorne, Norton, Bucknall, etc.	...	113	93	99

Of the 607 infants who died in the City before reaching the age of 12 months:—

- 164 or 27.0 per cent. died in the first week.
- 26 or 4.2 per cent. died in the second week.
- 29 or 4.8 per cent. died in the third week.
- 16 or 2.5 per cent died in the fourth week.

This year 38.5 per cent. of the infant deaths occurred in children under one month old, compared to 39.6 per cent. in 1925.

In the following list the relation of certain diseases to the infantile mortality of the district is shown. Enteritis and Diarrhoea accounted for 81 deaths; Premature Birth, 127; Convulsions, 37; Bronchitis, 64; Tuberculosis Diseases, 17; Pneumonia, 79; Atrophy and Debility, 59; Congenital defects, 36.

There were three deaths attributed to overlying as against 2 last year. This cause of death has now almost entirely disappeared.

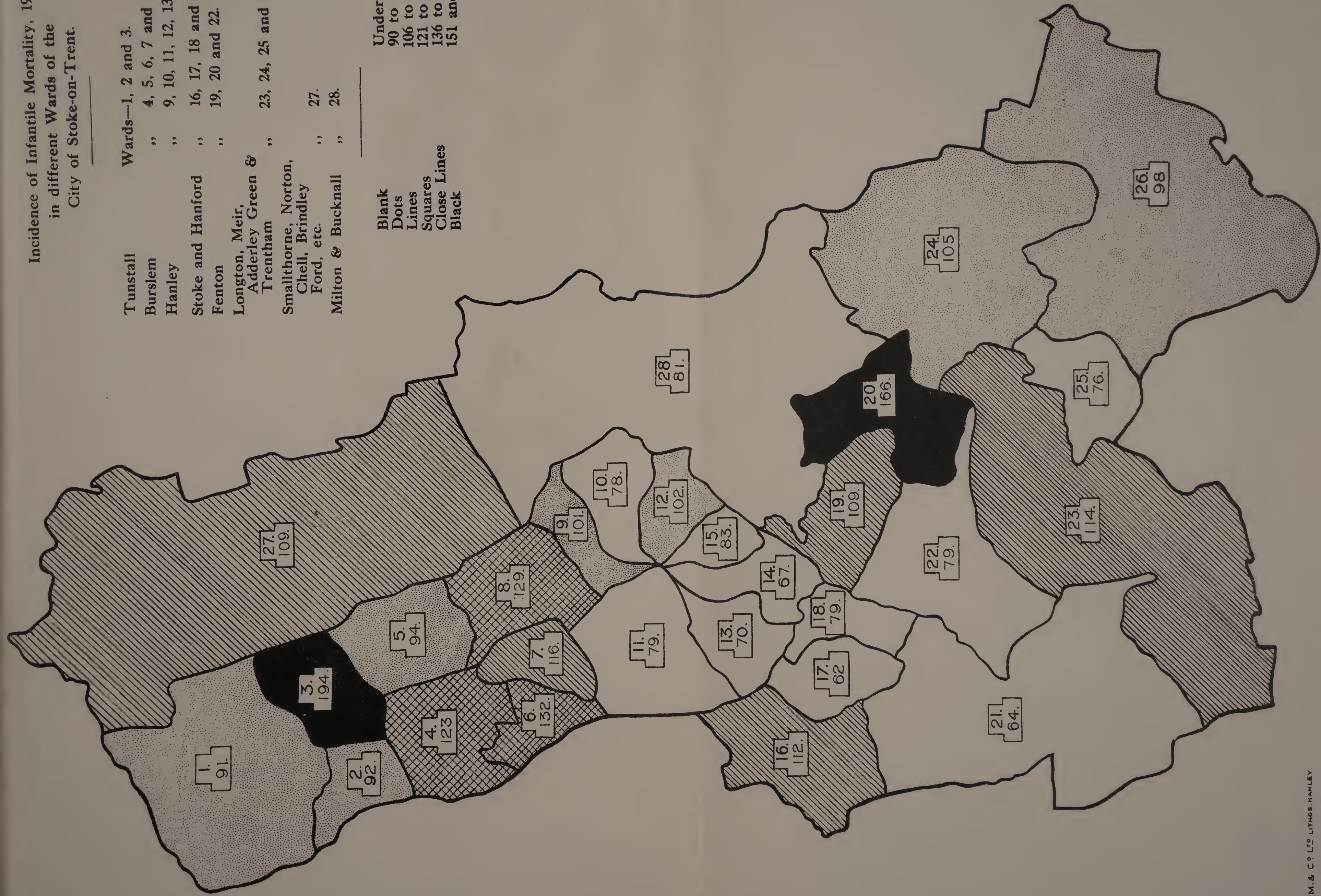
TABLE 9.—Infantile Mortality occurring in the City and Six Districts, 1926.

Causes of Death		Total Deaths under 1 Year											
All causes	Certified { Uncertified	1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	4 weeks	3 months and under	6 months and under	9 months and under	12 months and under	Smallthorne, Norton, Bucknall, etc.	Total Deaths	
		152	26	29	15	13	222	110	77	99	82	590	
		12	—	—	—	—	11	2	2	—	—	17	
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Chicken-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Whooping-Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria and Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Tuberculous Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Abdominal Tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Laryngitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Gastritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Rickets	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Suffocation (overlying)	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Atelectasis	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Congenital Malformations	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Premature Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	
TOTALS	...	164	26	29	16	235	112	79	99	82	76	144	58

Incidence of Infantile Mortality, 1926,
in different Wards of the
City of Stoke-on-Trent.

Tunstall	Wards—1, 2 and 3.
Burslem	4, 5, 6, 7 and 8.
Hanley	9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15.
Stoke and Hanford	16, 17, 18 and 21.
Fenton	19, 20 and 22.
Longton, Meir, Adderley Green & Trentham	23, 24, 25 and 26.
Smallthorne, Norton, Chell, Brindley Ford, etc.	27.
Milton & Bucknall	28.

Blank	Under 90
Dots	90 to 105
Lines	106 to 120
Squares	121 to 135
Close Lines	136 to 150
Black	151 and over



Deaths under one year per 1,000 Births in the City.

Year	Total Births	From all causes	From Diarrhoea	From all causes excluding Diarrhoea	From Respiratory Disease	From Debility, Congenital Defects and Premature Births.	From Measles	From Whooping Cough
1922	7115	115	9.8	106.2	31.9	42.1	2.9	7.7
1923	6776	93	16.7	76.3	15.6	38.3	2.8	0.6
1924	6722	101	8.3	92.7	26.6	40.0	3.6	2.8
1925	6391	106	11.7	94.3	24.1	40.1	0.9	4.2
1926	5976	101	13.5	87.5	24.4	37.1	0.7	3.3

Average rate for the five years (1922-26) ... 103

The infantile mortality rate in the 105 large towns in 1922 was 81; in 1923 it was 72; in 1924 it was 80; in 1925 it was 79 and in 1926 it was 73.

The rate for England and Wales during 1926 was 70.

Notification of Births Act.

Of the 5,900 births notified in the City of Stoke-on-Trent during 1926, 4,306 were attended by midwives, or 73.0 per cent.

In England and Wales midwives attend between 50 and 60 per cent. of births.

Summary of visits Paid by the Lady Medical Officer and Health Visitors.

Visits to infants under 1 year of age	...	...	...	5,992
Re-visits—Under 1 year	...	...	25,852	
Over 1 year	...	...	25,864	51,716
Visits to Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	1,182
,, Ophthalmia Cases	...	...	...	428
,, Midwives	...	...	...	495
,, in connection with still births and infant deaths	...	...	...	1,057
Other Visits	...	...	...	4,469
Wasted Visits	...	...	...	1,344
				66,683

During the year 5,900 births were notified, 4,306 by doctors, 1,430 by midwives and 164 from public institutions.

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES AMONGST ILLEGITIMATE AND
LEGITIMATE CHILDREN IN THE CITY OF STOKE-ON-TRENT.

		Illegitimate	Legitimate	Whole
1922	...	207	110	115
1923	...	198	88	93
1924	...	140	99	101
1925	...	171	103	106
1926	...	152	99	101

There are now 11 Infant Welfare Centres in the City area. Nine of these Centres are directly under the Council, and two under Voluntary Committees. The two Voluntary Centres, *i.e.*, The Thomas Twyford Centre at Bath Street, Hanley, and the Etruria Centre, work in conjunction with the Corporation.

The number of children on the registers at the Centres at the end of the year was as follows:—

		Total	New Cases 1926
Tunstall	...	670	495
Burslem	...	958	530
Shelton	...	496	334
Etruria	...	398	233
Hanley	...	624	425
Fenton	...	272	217
Stoke	...	428	258
Longton	...	1193	661
Smallthorne	...	298	199
Bucknall	...	138	76
Hanford	...	119	64
		5594	3492

At Burslem and Longton the Centres are open for the whole of one day each week, and the Stoke and Fenton Centres open for one morning each week. The Centre at Shelton is now open for two afternoons each week, the Consultations being held one afternoon, and the additional afternoon being used for baby weighing and lectures. At Hanford the Infant Consultations are held one afternoon fortnightly, and at all the other Centres weekly afternoon Consultations are held.

The total number of attendances at the Infant Welfare Centres was as follows:—

Attendances	...	...	...	...	43,926
Consultations	...	...	...	...	36,930

Average number of attendances at each Infant Consultation:—

Tunstall	...	...	...	...	65 to 70
Burslem	...	...	...	...	120 to 130
Shelton	...	...	...	...	50 to 60
Etruria	...	...	...	...	50 to 60
Hanley	...	...	...	...	60 to 80
Stoke	...	...	...	...	45 to 50
Fenton	...	...	...	...	35 to 40
Longton	...	...	...	...	130 to 150
Smallthorne	...	...	...	...	30 to 35
Bucknall	...	...	...	...	25 to 30
Hanford	...	...	...	...	25 to 30

The classification of infants which was commenced in 1920 has been continued during the year. The standard was as follows:—

Class 1. Healthy infants who are free from any physical defects.

Class 2. Healthy infants who are suffering from defects not likely to interfere with life.

Class 3. Infants who are poorly nourished, and whose vitality is below the average, but who are not suffering from any serious constitutional diseases or defects.

Class 4. Infants suffering from Marasmus, Rickets, and serious constitutional diseases or defects.

Classification of infants under one year:—

Class 1	...	...	...	1046	34.5
Class 2	...	...	...	792	26.1
Class 3	...	...	...	638	21.0
Class 4	...	...	...	141	4.6
Not Classified	...	...	...	417	13.8

Classification of infants over one year:—

Class 1	...	...	...	34	7.5
Class 2	...	...	...	25	5.5
Class 3	...	...	...	153	33.4
Class 4	...	...	...	77	16.8
Not Classified	...	...	...	169	36.8

It has been impossible this year to make a complete classification of the children, largely on account of the coal dispute; a very considerable number came to the Clinics to apply for extra nourishment, and these cases attended very regularly.

THE THOMAS TWYFORD INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

At the beginning of the year a Quartz Mercury Vapour Lamp was installed at this clinic and 71 cases were treated by ultra-violet irradiation. Of these 71 cases, 45 were children suffering from Rickets, Debility and Malnutrition. The lamp has proved of great value in the treatment of Rickets cases.

At the Breast-Feeding Clinic, which is held at this Centre, 132 infants attended, making a total attendance of 787.

During the year only two deaths occurred amongst these infants, one Pneumonia in a child of 11 months, and the other a case of Congenital Heart disease at 7 months.

The number of mothers dealt with individually at this Clinic is small, and it is therefore possible to give these mothers special supervision and advice about breast-feeding.

ETRURIA MOTHERS' WELCOME.

At Etruria, the Dental Clinic has again done most useful work for the mothers and 69 cases were treated at this Clinic.

DRYED MILK.

For the year ending March 31st, 1927, £3,917 worth of milk was used, £484 being sold, and the rest given free. This Dried Milk which has been given free to necessitous cases, has been of the greatest possible value, not only in the feeding of the poorer infants, but also in assisting many of the mothers in Breast-Feeding.

CLOTHING.

A sum of £25 was kindly given by the Burslem Mutual Burial Society for the provision of help for necessitous cases. Woollen vests were given to 96 poor infants, for whom no similar clothing would otherwise have been provided.

LECTURES.

Lectures have been given at the Centres in Cookery, Needlework and Mothercraft.

In November, an examination was held on the work dealt with at the various lectures. Written examinations were held in Mothercraft, and practical tests in Cookery and Needlework. The sum of £25 which was granted by the Health Committee for prizes was spent in various useful household articles and cooking utensils.

LADIES' VOLUNTARY COMMITTEES.

The Ladies' Voluntary Committees at Burslem and Longton have again given their help during the year in assisting with the clothing and distribution of dried milk.

The Longton ladies have also kindly provided confinement outfits for necessitous mothers in that area.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

Ante-natal Clinics are conducted at four Centres, viz.: Tunstall, Burslem, Longton and Richmond Lodge, Shelton.

The Clinics are held at Shelton on Tuesday morning and Wednesday evening ; at Burslem on Thursday morning ; at Tunstall on Friday morning ; and at Longton on Monday morning.

During the year 993 expectant mothers attended the Clinics.

Of those attending there were :—

Primipara	...	...	...	...	...	195
Multipara	...	...	...	...	...	798
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	...	4,185

This number is the largest attendance since the Clinics first started and it was found impossible to give the proper individual attention which should have been given to these cases.

A large number of the women came for extra nourishment, free dinners, etc. This was largely due to the unfortunate economic condition produced by the coal dispute.

It is encouraging to note the increased interest of the midwives in ante-natal care ; of the total number of cases, 252 were referred to the Clinics by the midwives of the district.

On examination, 15 women were found to be not pregnant ; 41 cases were referred to their own doctor, and 25 cases to Institutions in the District.

Of the cases referred to Hospital, Caesarean Section was performed in three cases of Contracted Pelvis, and Induced Labour in two cases.

Two hundred and one mothers had histories of infant deaths under one year, and in 98 cases there were histories of previous still-births and miscarriages.

One hundred and fifty-four of the mothers worked during pregnancy.

During the year, 7,954 free dinners were provided for the mothers attending the various Clinics, and 363 were allowed free milk. The supply of this extra nourishment was followed by a noticeable improvement in the general condition of the mothers, particularly in those cases where the general nutrition was very poor.

During the year, 1,212 visits were paid by the Health Visitors to the homes of expectant mothers.

Special mention must be made of the very defective state of the teeth of many of the mothers. In 194 cases, the teeth were in a very bad condition, and this was particularly marked in the multipara.

By arrangement with the Etruria Welcome Committee, 8 mothers were referred to the Etruria Dental Clinic ; these mothers derived great benefit from the treatment, and it is hoped to increase the number of women so treated.

Special note should also be made of the very early marriages in many of the cases—128 were married before the age of 20 years.

Wassermann tests were made in 25 cases, and in eight cases the reaction was found to be positive. These cases were referred to the Venereal Diseases Clinic for further treatment.

LECTURES.

At all the Ante-natal Clinics, talks were given to the mothers on Hygiene of Pregnancy ; they were also given advice about the clothing of their infants.

Model garments are on show at each Clinic, and free paper patterns are given to each of the mothers.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC, INFANTS (1926).

During the year 336 infants, whose mothers had received Ante-natal care during their pregnancy, attended at the Infant Clinics in the City.

These infants were all born during 1926, the classification is as follows:—

Class 1	...	...	197	...	58.6%
Class 2	...	...	78	...	23.2%
Class 3	...	...	53	...	15.8%
Class 4	...	...	8	...	2.4%

It is interesting to compare the classification of these special 336 infants with the general classification of the infants under one year, and it is satisfactory to record the high percentage of Class 1 infants.

It should also be noticed that although 78 infants were placed in Class 2, these infants are all physically sound, except for some minor defect.

Of the infants who were placed in Class 4, two cases were infants whose mothers had suffered from Venereal Disease, and in addition, one was also a case of Contracted Pelvis, for which Caesarean Section was performed ; in a third case the mother has suffered from Congenital Syphilis.

DEATHS.

During the year 11 deaths have occurred in these 336 infants, and in three cases the infants had only made one attendance at the Infant Welfare Centres.

1925 ANTE-NATAL CLINIC—INFANTS.

Careful records have been kept of all Ante-natal Clinic infants born in 1925, who had attended the Infant Welfare Clinics in the City, and reached the age of one year in 1926. Five deaths occurred in these infants under one year, giving a mortality rate of 26 per 1,000.

Deaths in Infants under One Year who had attended Infant Welfare Centres.

During the year 69 infants died who had attended Infant Welfare Centres.

The causes of death were as follows:—

Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	34
Gastro Enteritis	...	...	...	12
Convulsions	...	...	...	8
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	4
Other causes	...	...	...	11

Of these 69 deaths, only 19 had been regular in their attendance at the various Centres.

The classification is as follows—

Class	Deaths
1	16
2	21
3	20
4	12

HOME CONDITIONS.

In the deaths from Bronchial Catarrh, 12 occurred in infants whose parents were living in lodgings ; there were three definite cases of over-crowding.

In the deaths from Gastro-Enteritis, five were found in lodgings.

Overcrowding was found in six cases:—In one case six persons were living in one room, and in another seven persons.

DEATHS OF MOTHERS FROM ACCIDENTS AND DISEASES OF CHILDBIRTH.

During the year 27 deaths occurred from the above causes, the number being the same as in the previous year, and three fewer than in the year 1924.

Nine of these deaths were amongst women in their first confinement.

ATTENDANCE AT CONFINEMENT.

Confinement attended by doctor	...	...	6
Confinement attended by doctor and midwife			11
Confinement attended by midwife	...	...	10

In two cases inquests were held, one where septic infection had occurred.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	7
Placenta Praevia and Haemorrhages				...	5
Eclampsia	...	...	...	...	5
Kidney Trouble and Cardiac Failure				...	5
Difficult Labour (Contracted Pelvis)				...	2
Other causes	...	...	...	...	3

In several instances the women had been under medical treatment during part of their pregnancy.

ECLAMPSIA.

The number of deaths from Eclampsia was greater than in the previous year. Two cases were in young mothers in their first confinement.

In only two of the cases was there any systematic supervision of the mother during pregnancy. Two cases were emergency ones.

PUERPERAL FEVER DEATHS.

Seven mothers died from Puerperal Fever, the number being two fewer than in the previous year ; of these seven deaths, 3 occurred in primipara, and 4 in multipara.

ATTENDANCE AT CONFINEMENT.

Confinement attended by doctor and Midwife	...	3
Confinement attended by midwife...	...	2
Confinement in Institutions	...	2

The following complications were found in these cases—

Torn Perineum	...	...	...	...	I
Vaginal Abscess	...	...	...	...	I
Forceps Delivery	...	...	...	...	I
Venereal Disease	...	...	...	...	I
Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	I
Post Partum Haemorrhage			...	...	I
Lead Worker	...	...	...	...	I

In only two cases was there any evidence of medical supervision during pregnancy.

During Civic Week an Exhibition of the work done by the Child Welfare Section of the Health Department was held. This was well attended considering the industrial dispute.

The ignorance of many of the young mothers attending the Antenatal Clinics and Centres impresses on one's mind the urgent need for the education of the mothers and future mothers of the district in the importance of personal hygiene and mothercraft. It is only by a persistent process of education that the full value of Ante-natal care will be obtained.

The housing problem still remains acute, and there are still far too many mothers with families living in lodgings.

A note is appended of a few typical cases, found by the Health Visitors in their district work.

- (1) Five children and two adults living in one room ; have done so for seven years.
- (2) Father, mother and four children in one room.
- (3) Father, mother and four children in one room ; mother an Ante-natal case.
- (4) Father, mother and seven children in one room.

Puerperal Fever.

Forty-three cases of Puerperal Fever were notified during 1926, 7 proved fatal. Four cases were attended by a doctor only, 14 by a midwife only, and in 25 cases both a midwife and a doctor was in attendance.

There is no hospital accommodation for the treatment of Puerperal Fever other than the Guardians' Institutions. In view of the Public Health (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations, 1926, it is hoped that arrangements will shortly be made for the admission of these cases into the Infectious Diseases Hospital. Under these Regulations which came into force on 1st October, 1926, only two cases were notified up to the end of the year.

Deaths assigned to Pregnancy or Child Birth.

1926—Puerperal Fever, 7 ; Other diseases, 20 ; Total, 27 ; Rate per 1,000 Births, 4.5.

The rate per 1,000 births in England and Wales was in 1925, 3.86.

All cases of Puerperal Fever are very carefully enquired into, and precautions taken in the way of disinfecting the midwife and controlling her practice in order to prevent the spread of the disease.

The Corporation supplies a nurse so as to release the midwife in any case where the medical attendant is suspicious that the case may be one of Puerperal Fever even though the case may not be notified. It is of the utmost importance that every effort should be made to prevent the conveyance of infection by the midwives.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

The total number of cases notified by medical men and midwives in 1926 was 193, as compared with 245 in 1925. In 53 instances the diagnosis was not confirmed by a medical man, though notifications were received from midwives.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum has been compulsory notifiable throughout the whole area since 1911. 140 notifications were received during 1926 from medical men either as first notifications or confirming midwives' notifications. The Total number of notifications received from midwives was 147. The 193 cases notified were distributed as follows:—

Tunstall	...	23	cases.
Burslem	...	28	„
Hanley	...	42	„
Stoke	...	17	„
Fenton	...	41	„
Longton	...	31	„
Smallthorne, Norton, Bucknall etc.	...	11	„
Number of cases notified...	...	...	193
Number of births registered	...	...	5.976
Number of cases per 1,000 births	...	...	32.3

In 1925 the number of cases notified by midwives and medical men per 1,000 births was 38.3.

Year	Number of Births	Number of Cases notified by, or confirmed by medical men	Number of cases per 1,000 births
1917	4,991	123	24.6
1918	5,219	93	17.7
1919	5,635	177	31.4
1920	7,712	217	28.1
1921	7,103	226	31.8
1922	7,115	187	26.2
1923	6,776	156	23.0
1924	6,722	130	19.6
1925	6,391	159	24.8
1926	5,976	140	23.4
Average for 10 years	6,364	161	25.1

Results of severe cases of Ophthalmia during the past Ten Years.

Year	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness
1917	3	0
1918	3	0
1919	2	1
1920	4	0
1921	2	0
1922	1	0
1923	0	0
1924	0	0
1925	1	0
1926	0	0
Total ...	16	1

In 40 of the cases the birth was attended by a Doctor.

In 153 cases the birth was attended by a Midwife.

Nurses were supplied by the Corporation in 104 cases.

The cost of nursing was £503 4s. 11d.

Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum			Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated		Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	At home	In hospital				
193	104	3	189	—	—	4

Day and night nurses are supplied in all cases where necessary. Arrangements also exist for a specialist to consult with the medical attendants free of charge.

Pemphigus Neonatorum.

Sixty cases of Pemphigus Neonatorum were notified during the year.

The cases occurred principally in the Hanley, Burslem and Tunstall areas.

The appliances and clothing of the midwives in contact with the cases were all disinfected, and where contact cases occurred in their practice, their houses and bedding were also disinfected.

The midwives themselves gave all possible assistance in the matter.

Measles.

There were 19 deaths, compared with 36 in 1925, and 153 in 1924.

The death rate from Measles in 1926 was 0.07 per 1,000, compared to 0.12 for the 105 large towns, and 0.09 for England and Wales.

The ages at death were as follows:—

Under	1	1—2	2—5	5—15	Over 15
	4	6	5	3	1

Measles is not compulsorily notifiable in the City.

Whooping Cough.

There were 43 deaths from Whooping Cough during the year, compared with 66 in 1925.

The deaths occurred at the following ages:—

Under	1	1—2	2—5	5—15
	20	10	12	1

Leaflets are distributed through the schools when necessary.

This disease was prevalent during the year and in its relation to Public Health is in the same category as Measles—a formidable disease among younger children.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.

During the year seven cases were notified but none of these died, but one case died that was certified but not notified.

Epidemic Diarrhoea.

The deaths from Epidemic Diarrhoea numbered 81 under one year of age; 14 from 1-2 years of age; 6 from 2-5 years of age; and 3 over 5 years of age.

The death rate under 2 years of age per 1,000 births was 15.9 as compared with 11.8 for the 105 large towns and 8.7 for England and Wales.

Isolation Hospitals.

There are two Isolation Hospital for the treatment of cases of Infectious Disease in the City, viz.—The Bucknall Isolation Hospital and the Bagnall Small-pox Hospital.

Bagnall Hospital is administered by the North Staffordshire Joint Small-pox Hospital Board, and was built in 1903-4, to accommodate 54 patients.

Ambulance Arrangements.

For the removal of Infectious Disease cases ambulance accommodation is provided at the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

For the removal of Non-Infectious and Accident cases two motor ambulances are employed by the Corporation. At least one large private firm provides a private motor ambulance to cope with accidents, etc., at their collieries and steel works.

The Board of Guardians also have provided ambulances.

Nursing Arrangements in the City.

The following Voluntary Associations provide and pay the Nurses as set out:—

The Tunstall Nursing Institution, 1 Nurse.
The Burslem District Nursing Association, 2 Nurses.
The Hanley Nursing Association, 2 Nurses.
The Stoke-upon-Trent Nursing Association, 1 Nurse.
The Stoke Nursing Association, 1 Nurse.
The Fenton Nursing Institution, 1 Nurse.
Longton District Nursing Association, 2 Nurses.
Norton District Nursing Association, 1 Nurse.

Adoptive Acts in Force in the City.

Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.

The Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890. (Part 3).

Parts of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, as follows:—

Part 2.
Part 3.
Part 4.
Part 5.
Part 6.
Part 7.—Sections 79, 80, 81, 85, 86.
Part 8.
Part 9.
Part 10.

Stoke-on-Trent Corporation Act, 1923.

Under this Act, which became law in August, 1923, the Corporation have been given many new powers in relation to Public Health matters.

Sanitary Administration.

The following table shows the number of defects found in connection with the sanitary accommodation of Factories:—

SANITARY CONVENIENCES	SANITARY ACCOMMODATION	1925			1926		
		Defects found	Defects remedied	Outstanding at end of year	Defects found	Defects remedied	Outstanding at end of year
Insufficient	...	5	5	—	10	5	5
Unsuitable	...	2	2	—	6	6	—
Defective	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes	...	1	1	—	—	—	—
Badly lighted	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Badly ventilated	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Without proper fasteners on doors	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dirty condition	...	6	7	—	23	23	—
Foul or defective urinals	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	...	13	13	—	15	15	—
Fittings	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	27	28	—	54	49	5

Workshops.

During the year 1,922 inspections have been made of Workshops and Bakehouses.

Sanitary Defects found in Workshops.

DEFECTS	SANITARY CONVENIENCES :	1925			1926		
		Defects found	Defects remedied	Outstanding at end of year	Defects found	Defects remedied	Outstanding at end of year
Want of cleanliness	...	254	255	5	267	266	6
Want of ventilation	...	6	6	—	6	6	—
Overcrowding	...	2	2	—	—	—	—
Drainage of floors	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	...	40	40	4	26	25	5
Insufficient	...	29	24	5	6	7	4
Unsuitable	...	19	19	1	26	26	—
Defective	...	16	16	—	14	14	—
Not separate for sexes	...	6	6	—	3	3	—
Badly lighted	...	5	5	—	4	4	—
Badly ventilated	...	3	3	—	2	2	—
No fasteners on doors of female W.C.'s	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dirty condition	...	15	15	—	14	14	—
Fittings	...	17	17	—	16	16	—
Intervening spaces provided	...	2	2	—	—	—	—
Total	...	414	410	15	384	383	16

Bakehouses.

There are on the register 125 Bakehouses as compared with 125 in the previous year. During the year, 1323 visits were paid, as compared with 1,367 in 1925. Five notices were served. All the premises have been regularly lime-washed during the year.

Outworkers.

The Total number of lists received was 172 as compared with 170 in the previous year.

		1925	1926
List of Outworkers received	...	170	172
Number of Names on Lists	...	217	219
Warning Notices sent <i>re</i> Lists	...	177	164
Number of Visits paid to Outworkers during the year	...	325	340

I.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES, INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY DISTRICT SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories (including Factory Laundries)...	34	11	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	1897	25	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report) ...	25	—	—
Total ...	1956	36	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars						Number of Defects	
				Found	Remedied		
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:</i> —							
Want of Cleanliness	290	289	
Want of Ventilation	6	6	
Overcrowding	—	—	
Want of Drainage of Floors	—	—	
Other Nuisances	41	40	
<i>Sanitary Accommodation:</i> —							
Insufficient	16	10	
Unsuitable or defective	46	44	
Not separate for sexes	3	3	
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshops Acts:</i>							
Breach of special sanitary requirements for Bakehouses (s.s. 97 to 100)	5	5	
Total	402	392	

3.—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK	OUTWORKERS' LIST						Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending list	Outwork in Unwholesome Premises (Section 108)		
	List received from Employers sending twice in the year			Sending once				In- stances	Notices served	
	Lists	Con- tractors	Work- men	Lists	Con- tractors	Work- men				
Wearing Apparel— Making, &c. ...	170	85	217	—	—	—	164	—	—	
Furniture and Up- holstery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Umbrellas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Basket Making ...	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Stuffed Toys ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total ...	172	86	219	—	—	—	164	—	—	

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year	Number
Dressmaking and Millinery	473
Bootmaking and Repairing	364
Blacksmiths and Wheelwrights	80
Tailoring	117
Baking	125
Cratemaking	60
Engraving	21
Joiners	116
Plumbers	89
Others	533
TOTAL NUMBER OF WORKSHOPS ON REGISTER	1978

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Housing.

NUMBER OF HOUSES.

There are approximately 56,000 houses in the City. Of this number probably about 95 per cent. are below a rental of £26 per annum. About 62 per cent. of the houses consist of four rooms or less. Seven hundred and six new houses were completed during the year.

POPULATION.

The population of the area is estimated to be 275,600.

APPENDICES.

Housing Conditions.

Statistics Year ended 31st of December, 1926.

1.—GENERAL.

1. Estimated Population	...	...	...	...	...	275,600
2. General Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	12.5
3. Death Rate from Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	1.31
4. Infantile Mortality	...	...	...	...	...	101
5. Number of dwelling-houses of all classes (approx.)	...					56,422
6. Number of working-class dwelling-houses (approx.)	...					48,000
7. Number of new working-class houses erected	...					706

2.—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

1. INSPECTION.

1. Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	394
2. Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	394
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	181
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of these referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	213

NOTE.—Under item (3) 140 of this number were in a scheduled unhealthy area.

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers

...	Nil.
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS :—

A. Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925:—

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	135
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit:—							
(a) by Owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners...	...						5
3. Number of dwelling-houses in which repairs are in progress							
(a) by owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners...	...						7
4. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ; the notices not having expired	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
5. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	3
2. Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied			
(a) by Owners	...	...	3
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	...		Nil.

C. Proceedings under Sections 11—15 of the Housing Act, 1925:—

1. Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
2. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
3. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
4. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
5. Number of dwelling-houses demolished by owners	...						1

Massey Square Improvement Scheme.

During the year 36 houses were closed in the above area and 21 of these were demolished.

Summary of Housing Defects dealt with during 1926.

		Housing Act, 1925, Sec. 3.	P.H. Acts, 1875, etc.
Deteriorated and, or dirty decorations	...	...	809 6
Dampness	...	...	204 2
Want of, or defective eaves gutters	...	...	129 3
Want of, or defective rain water pipes	...	...	113 2
Defective roofs	...	...	161 2
Defective plaster of walls and ceilings	...	...	848 5
Defective floors	...	...	720 1
Lighting and Ventilation	...	...	377 3
Defective windows	...	...	235 —
,, brickwork, pointing, etc.	...	...	1026 6
,, firegrates	...	...	161 —
,, door steps	...	...	51 —
,, doors	...	...	125 —
,, door frames	...	...	37 —
,, stairs	...	...	47 —
Want of hand-rail, guard rail or balusters	...	...	87 —
Want of water supply	...	...	43 —
Improper position of water taps	...	...	39 —
Want of sinks	...	...	37 —
Defective Sinks, waste pipes, etc	...	...	32 —
Want of, or defective washing boilers	...	...	99 —
Want of, or defective drainage	...	...	84 —
Defective closet structures and, or fittings	...	...	121 2
Want of flushing apparatus	...	...	37 —
Defective yard paving	...	...	176 —
Defective yard gates	...	...	66 —
Want of paving to back passages	...	...	12 —
Want of or defective ashes accommodation	...	...	27 —
<hr/>			
Totals ...		5,903	32

The number of visits made was 8,452, and 390 appointments were kept. The number of defects found was 5,935.

Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act, 1920 and Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Act, 1923.

During the year four applications were made by tenants for the inspection of their houses with a view to the issue of certificates under the above Acts.

All the dwelling-houses were inspected and certificates granted.

REGISTER OF RAINFALL IN 1926.

KEPT AT THE MEIR, LONGTON.

(By the courtesy of Mr. R. C. Frain.

	Total Depth (inches)	Greatest Rainfall in 24 hours		No. of days on which .01 inch or more fell
		Inches	Date	
January	...	3.27	.52	3rd
February	...	2.09	.84	7th
March	...	1.32	.30	4th
April	...	1.38	.30	16th
May	...	2.92	.46	14th
June	...	2.28	.66	14th
July	...	2.59	.66	21st
August	...	3.18	1.42	9th
September	...	1.52	.18	25th
October	...	2.42	.60	8th
November	...	5.03	1.50	1st
December	...	1.01	.19	5th
 TOTALS	...	30.01	—	226

In 1925 the total rainfall was 32.52 inches.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply of the City was in the hands of a private Company, The Staffordshire Potteries Waterworks Company. By a recent Act of Parliament the Corporation, together with neighbouring Authorities, have acquired the undertaking.

The supply is derived in the greater proportion from deep wells situated at Hatton, Mill Meece, Meir and Stockton Brook. A considerable though lesser quantity is got from springs at Wall Grange. There is an abundant supply, and that from the deep wells is of excellent quality.

The supply from Wall Grange is chlorinated before distribution, this was begun in the Autumn of 1922 when the quality was found to be unsatisfactory.

There are now only 4 wells in the City, supplying the following houses:—Park Farm, Goldenhill; The Kennels, Cobridge; 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, Meir Road, Longton; The Bungalow, Barlaston Road, Blurton.

POLLUTION OF THE ATMOSPHERE.

The automatic air filter and standard gauge for measuring the suspended matter in the air, have been in use throughout the year, and the results recorded and forwarded regularly to the Air Ministry. By the one instrument air is filtered automatically each hour through a sheet of filter paper, and the tint of the deposit compared with fixed tints on a scale, the darker the deposit the greater the pollution of the air. By the second instrument the rain-water is collected and the undissolved and dissolved matter ascertained by filtration and analysis.



